

WINTER 2022



VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

# PAWSITIVE PRESS

A Newsletter For Kids



**Show Your Pet  
You Care**

**Foster Care**

**Congratulations  
Tessa**

# Show Your Pet You Care

Every pet wants to feel love and affection. They may not understand what “I love you” means, but they can tell you care about them in other ways! Since Valentine’s Day is just around the corner, here are some things you can do with your pet to show them some love.

- **Invite Play**

Pets love to play! Spending time throwing a ball for your dog or dancing a feather wand for your cat is a great way to bond with them. Playing not only builds a connection with your furry friend but also helps them get the exercise they need!

- **Snuggle Up**

Just like you, pets need downtime. If your pet is sleepy or needs a rest, cuddling up with them and giving them gentle pets is a good way to help them relax. However, if your dog or cat moves away from you or goes to their quiet place, give them space.

- **Show Respect**

One of the best ways to let your pet know that you care is to always be respectful. Showing respect includes treating them kindly and not forcing them to do things they don’t want to do.

- **Brush Them**

All dogs and cats need to have their fur brushed, especially ones with long hair. Long-haired animals should have their hair brushed every day, while those with short hair only need to be brushed once or twice a week. Make sure to have an adult show you how to groom your pet and be very gentle!

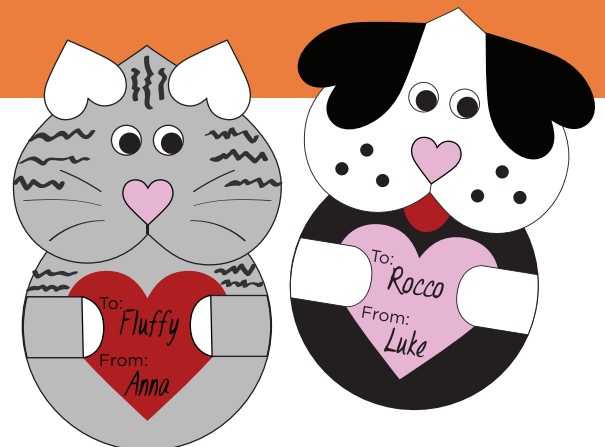


**Giving your furry friend attention is a big part of responsible pet ownership. You are a very important part of their life!**

## CREATE A VALENTINE

### Spread some love to our homeless animals

Valentine’s Day is approaching, and the VBSPCA shelter pets would be happy to receive some love while they wait to find their forever homes! Get creative as you cut and color a valentine for one of our residents. Visit [vbspca.com/activity-of-the-month](http://vbspca.com/activity-of-the-month) to download and print one of our valentine activity sheets.





# The Importance of Foster Homes

The Virginia Beach SPCA has some very special volunteers that we call fosters. Fosters are people who allow a shelter animal to stay in their home for a while before the pet can find their forever home.

Some animals go into foster homes because they are not yet ready to be adopted. Young puppies and kittens need to grow bigger and stronger before they can be adopted, so foster families provide them with additional care. Other animals stay in foster homes because they are sick or injured and need a quiet place to recover. Fosters even give some of our animals a break if they become too overwhelmed or stressed at the shelter!

Fosters not only help the animals in their homes, they help other homeless animals too! When an animal goes into a foster home, that creates a space at the VBSPCA Shelter for another pet who doesn't have any place to go.

Fostering can make you feel good since you are helping animals, but it can also be hard to say goodbye when it is time for the pets to return to the shelter. However, fosters are very important for animal shelters like the VBSPCA since they provide special attention and care for animals who need a little extra support before they find their forever homes.



## Play Our Game and Become an Animal Hero!

The Virginia Beach SPCA is on a mission to make our community a better place for animals. You can help by playing our video arcade! Animal Heroes will teach you all about being a responsible pet parent and pet safety. To play, scan this QR code or visit **[vbspca.com/animal-heroes](http://vbspca.com/animal-heroes)**



## VBSPCA Animal Awareness Cards

**Collect all four and win a prize!**

Each edition of the Pawsitive Press will feature a VBSPCA animal. Collect four Animal Awareness Cards and bring them in to the VBSPCA to receive a special prize.

My name is Velma. I'm a French Lop rabbit who loves to have a lot of room to roam around. I have lived with cats, dogs, and children in my previous home and we all got along. I love to eat my fruits and veggies. I will let you know if you are too close to my food, but otherwise I am social and tolerant. You will need to give me a lot of room as I'm a pretty big gal. Come visit me and my friends in our Small Animal Room.



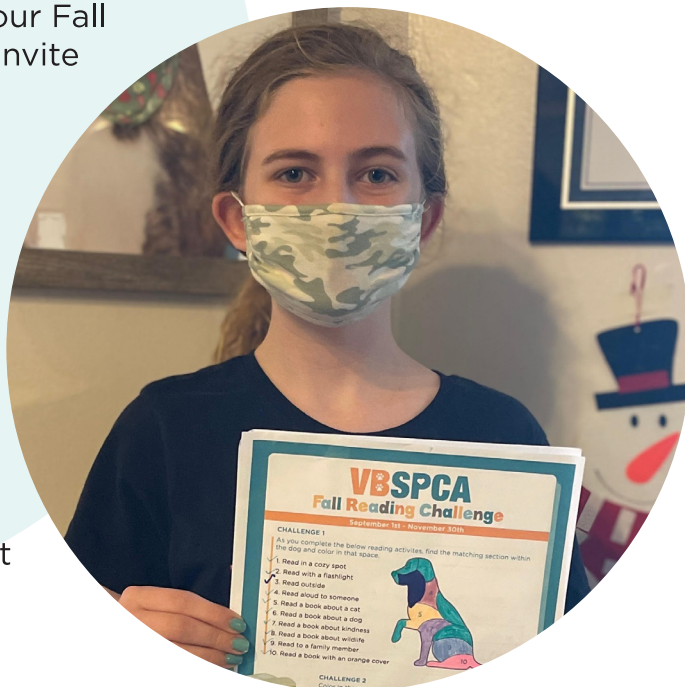
**Velma**

# Here's Looking at You, Kids!

Congratulations to Tessa for completing our Fall Reading Challenge! Each September, we invite children to explore the world of reading through a number of challenges focused on animals and compassion. Tessa was the first to complete all 3 levels of our challenge, and she did a great job! Keep up the good work, Tessa.

The Virginia Beach SPCA offers activities and challenges throughout the year in an effort to connect children with our mission. New challenges are posted every few months, so check the VBSPCA website to learn about our writing contest that launches in April!

[vbspca.com/virtual-activity](https://vbspca.com/virtual-activity)



Thank you to our 2022 Humane Education Partner



[VBSPCA.COM](https://vbspca.com)

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