

the Friend junior



For Parents of Little Ones

This month the Sunbeam class will have a lesson about caring for animals. Caring for animals can help young children learn about God's creations, learn to be responsible, and practice being kind. Teaching young children to be gentle with pets and respectful of wildlife can be fun for the whole family.



Here are some ideas to help your child be kind to animals:

□ Explain that Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ created animals. Review the Creation story from the January 2018 *Friend Junior*. Look for animals in books, and encourage your child to learn more about them.

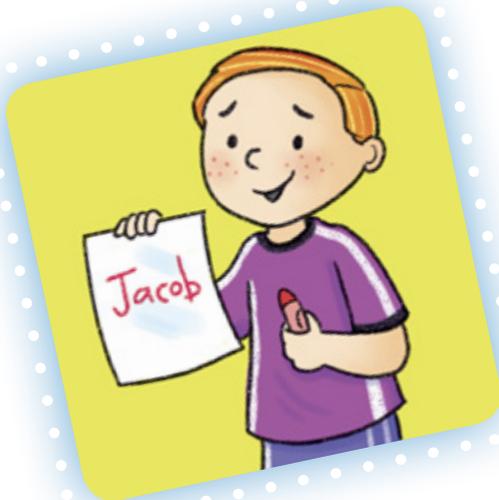
□ Take a walk and look for animals, birds, and bugs. Talk about how Heavenly Father and Jesus created all of these things as part of our world. Come up with ideas about what your family can do to take care of God's creations.

□ Teach your child how to treat a pet. Practice gently petting a stuffed animal. Model asking a pet owner if it's OK to pet their animal. Help your children learn to recognize when an animal doesn't want to be touched.

□ Give your child opportunities to help care for an animal—in your home, at a neighbor's house, or at a pet shelter. Chores like feeding and giving water to animals can help a child learn basic responsibility.

My Talents

By Jordan Monson Wright



I can spell
and write my
name.



I give the
greatest
hugs.



I can dance
and twirl
around.



I'm good at
finding bugs.



I can drum a happy
beat using just my
knee.



I'm glad I have
the talents
Heavenly Father
gave to me.

Cole Helps the Baby Birds

By Jennifer Maddy

Whoooo!  listened to the  blow outside.  thought

about the  in the . He hoped the  were OK in the

storm. The next morning  ran outside. He looked up at the

. No ! The  looked worried. Then  saw

the . It was on the ground. “Chirp! Chirp!” the  said.

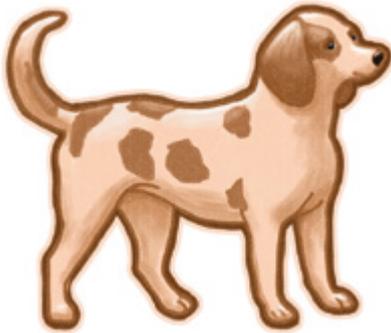
 put a  against the . He carefully put the 

back in the . “Chirp! Chirp!” the  said. The birds were

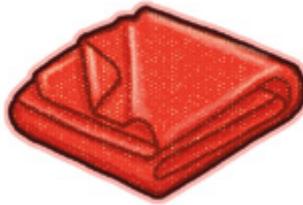
happy! And  was happy he could help some of God’s creations.

I Can Be Kind to Animals

Cole wants to help the animals. Match each animal with what it needs. What can you do to show kindness to God's creations?



Bowzer the dog wants to play.



Cobble the cow needs to be milked.



Mittens the cat likes sleeping on soft things.



Dunk the duck is hungry.



SCRIPTURE STORIES

Elijah and the Widow

By Kim Webb Reid



A prophet named Elijah warned people a famine would come. There was no rain, and plants didn't grow. Elijah drank water from a creek. God sent birds to bring him food. But then the creek dried up. God told Elijah to find a woman in town, and she would feed him.

Elijah found the woman and asked her for something to eat. The woman said she only had a little flour and oil left to feed herself and her son.



Elijah promised that if she shared her food with him, she would not run out. The widow had faith in the prophet Elijah and shared her food.

Each day, there was enough food for them to eat. It was a miracle! Then the widow's son got sick and died. But Elijah brought him back to life. The woman was blessed for listening to the prophet.





I am blessed when I listen to the prophet. ●

From 1 Kings 17.

I Can Tell the Truth



ILLUSTRATION BY APRYL STOTT

Carey was a little worried. Would she get in trouble if Mom knew she used the stickers?

Carey took a deep breath. "I did," she said.

"Those were for your brother's birthday party," Mom said. "Now we don't have any stickers."

Carey felt like crying. She hadn't meant to do something wrong. She hoped Mom wasn't too mad at her.

"I'm sorry," Carey said.

"Next time, be sure to ask," Mom said. "And don't stick stickers around the house."

Carey nodded.

"And there's one more thing," Mom said. "It's very important."

Carey looked up at her.

"Thank you for telling me the



truth," Mom said. "I'm proud of you." She gave Carey a hug. "I hope you'll always tell me the truth."

Carey didn't feel good about using up all the stickers. But she did feel good about telling the truth.

"Thanks, Mom," Carey said. "I will." ●

The author lives in Nevada, USA.



Stickers Everywhere!



She put one on the wall. And one by the light switch. Soon stickers were everywhere.

Then Carey went outside to play.

A few minutes later, Carey heard Mom calling her. "Come here," Mom said. She didn't sound very happy.

Carey came inside.

Mom pointed at the stickers. "Do you know who did this?" Mom asked.

By Julie Cornelius-Huang

(Based on a true story)

Carey saw a bag sitting on the counter. She looked inside. She saw a whole package of stickers! Spacemen. Astronauts. Rockets. Stars.

Carey loved stickers! She opened the package and peeled all the stickers off the paper. She put one sticker on the countertop.

