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## CHOICES CARD ACTIVITY

### STUDENT HANDOUT AND TEACHERS' GUIDE

This activity, which will introduce you to a variety of ways in which animals are used in our society, is not designed to tell you how to behave or what is right or wrong. Rather, it is intended to get you to think about how the choices that you make every day—even those you might not think about—affect animals.

Each card provides two choices. Decide which choice is best for animals, and explain why. If people disagree, do follow-up research to learn more about the subject on the card.

#### Background Information

Some of the cards list products, companies, or organizations that you may not be familiar with, so brief descriptions are provided below. The following information will also help guide you in doing additional Web research.

#### Animal-Companion Issues (Cards 1-7)

These cards address the issues of animal-companion overpopulation, pet shops and puppy mills, the selling of live animals, and the appropriate care of animal companions. Learn more about these issues at [HelpingAnimals.com](http://HelpingAnimals.com).

PETCO sells live animals in its stores, often resulting in cruelty and neglect. Read more at [PETCOCruelty.com](http://PETCOCruelty.com).

#### Animals in Entertainment (Cards 8-14)

This set of cards concerns the treatment of animals in the entertainment industry. The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus uses elephants and other exotic animals in its performances, while Cirque du Soleil relies exclusively on humans to wow its audiences. Learn more about animals who are used in circuses at [Circuses.com](http://Circuses.com).

Animals are also used in rodeos, zoos, and aquariums such as Sea World, as well as for horse and dog racing and pulling carriages on city streets. Search the Web to find information on the treatment of animals in these industries.

#### Animal Testing and Dissection (Cards 15-19)

Crest toothpaste and Tide laundry detergent are made by Procter & Gamble, one of the largest companies that still tests household products on animals. Companies

like Jason and Ecover use non-animal tests to ensure product safety. Learn more about animal testing and which cosmetics and household product companies are and which are not “cruelty-free” at [CaringConsumer.org](http://CaringConsumer.org).

The March of Dimes funds animal experiments (learn more at [MarchOfCrimes.com](http://MarchOfCrimes.com)), but Easter Seals helps children with birth defects by spending its money on prevention, treatment efforts, and epidemiological (population) and clinical studies that provide relevant, human-based information. Learn which charities do and which do not fund animal experiments at [HumaneSeal.org](http://HumaneSeal.org).

Iams kills cats and dogs in nutritional experiments, but Natural Life Pet Products does not conduct animal experiments. Learn more about Iams’ testing and which dog and cat food companies do and which do not fund animal experiments at [IamsCruelty.com](http://IamsCruelty.com).

Learn more about the treatment of animals who are used for dissection and the reusable and humane alternatives to dissection at [DissectionAlternatives.org](http://DissectionAlternatives.org).

#### Animals Used for Food (Cards 20-24)

The BK Veggie™ is the vegetarian burger sold at Burger King restaurants across the United States. Soy Delicious is a brand of dairy-free ice cream made of soy. Tofu Scramble is a product made by Fantastic Foods that can be mixed with tofu to make a vegan version of scrambled eggs. Learn about the treatment of animals raised for meat, milk, eggs, and foie gras at [FactoryFarming.com](http://FactoryFarming.com), [ISECruelty.com](http://ISECruelty.com), and [GourmetCruelty.com](http://GourmetCruelty.com).

#### Animals Used for Clothing (Cards 25-28)

Learn about how leather, fur, and wool production affect animals at [CowsAreCool.com](http://CowsAreCool.com), [FurIsDead.com](http://FurIsDead.com), and [WoolIsBaad.com](http://WoolIsBaad.com).

#### Wildlife and Habitat Issues (Cards 29-32)

To learn more about hunting issues and ways to coexist with wildlife in a humane manner, visit the Fund for Animals Web site, [Fund.org](http://Fund.org). For information about fish and fishing, visit [FishingHurts.com](http://FishingHurts.com).

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CHOICES CARD #1

BREED YOUR CAT.

KINDNESS TO ANIMALS = VIOLENCE PREVENTION

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CHOICES CARD #2

PURCHASE A DOG FROM A PET SHOP.

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CHOICES CARD #3

BUY COMPANION-ANIMAL SUPPLIES  
FROM PETCO.

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CHOICES CARD #4

HOPE THAT YOUR DOG OR CAT  
NEVER GETS LOST.

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CHOICES CARD #5

HAVE YOUR CAT DECLAWED.

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CHOICES CARD #6

CROP THE EARS  
AND DOCK THE TAIL OF YOUR DOG.

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CHOICES CARD #7

CHAIN YOUR DOG IN THE BACKYARD.

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CHOICES CARD #8

GO TO THE RINGLING BROS.  
AND BARNUM & BAILEY CIRCUS.

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CHOICES CARD #2

ADOPT A DOG FROM A SHELTER.

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CHOICES CARD #1

SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR CAT.

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CHOICES CARD #4

PUT ID TAGS ON YOUR CAT OR DOG.

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CHOICES CARD #3

BUY COMPANION-ANIMAL SUPPLIES  
FROM A STORE THAT  
DOES NOT SELL ANIMALS.

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CHOICES CARD #6

LEAVE YOUR DOG'S EARS AND TAIL  
IN THEIR NATURAL STATE.

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CHOICES CARD #5

BUY YOUR CAT A SCRATCHING POST,  
AND TRAIN HIM OR HER TO USE IT

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CHOICES CARD #8

GO TO CIRQUE DU SOLEIL.

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CHOICES CARD #7

KEEP YOUR DOG INSIDE THE HOUSE,  
AND MAKE HIM OR HER  
A PART OF THE FAMILY.

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CHOICES CARD #9

GO TO A RODEO.

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CHOICES CARD #10

GO TO SEA WORLD.

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CHOICES CARD #11

GO TO A ZOO.

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CHOICES CARD #12

WATCH GREYHOUND RACING.

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CHOICES CARD #13

WATCH HORSE RACING.

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CHOICES CARD #14

RIDE IN A HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE  
THROUGH THE CITY.

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CHOICES CARD #15

BUY CREST TOOTHPASTE.

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CHOICES CARD #16

PURCHASE TIDE LAUNDRY DETERGENT.

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CHOICES CARD #10

GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK.

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CHOICES CARD #9

PLAY FOOTBALL OR SOCCER  
WITH FRIENDS

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CHOICES CARD #12

TAKE YOUR DOG FOR A RUN  
IN THE DOG PARK.

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CHOICES CARD #11

WALK THROUGH A WILDLIFE PRESERVE.

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CHOICES CARD #14

RIDE IN A RICKSHAW OR ON A BIKE  
OR WALK THROUGH THE CITY.

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CHOICES CARD #13

PLAY CARDS WITH FRIENDS.

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CHOICES CARD #16

PURCHASE ECOVER LAUNDRY DETERGENT.

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CHOICES CARD #15

BUY JASON TOOTHPASTE.

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CHOICES CARD #17

DONATE TO THE MARCH OF DIMES.

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CHOICES CARD #18

BUY IAMS DOG FOOD.

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CHOICES CARD #19

DISSECT A FROG IN CLASS.

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CHOICES CARD #20

EAT A BIG MAC.

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CHOICES CARD #21

EAT SOME ICE CREAM.

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CHOICES CARD #22

EAT SCRAMBLED EGGS.

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CHOICES CARD #23

EAT JUNK FOOD.

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CHOICES CARD #24

EAT PÂTÉ DE FOIE GRAS.

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CHOICES CARD #18

BUY NATURAL LIFE PET PRODUCTS  
DOG FOOD.

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CHOICES CARD #17

DONATE TO EASTER SEALS.

KINDNESS TO ANIMALS = VIOLENCE PREVENTION

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CHOICES CARD #20

EAT A BK VEGGIE™ BURGER.

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CHOICES CARD #19

LEARN ANATOMY  
USING COMPUTER PROGRAMS, MODELS,  
AND COLORING BOOKS.

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CHOICES CARD #22

EAT TOFU SCRAMBLE.

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CHOICES CARD #21

EAT SOME SOY DELICIOUS.

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CHOICES CARD #24

EAT VEGETABLE PÂTÉ.

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CHOICES CARD #23

EAT FIVE OR MORE SERVINGS  
OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES EVERY DAY.

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CHOICES CARD #25

BUY LEATHER SHOES.

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CHOICES CARD #26

BUY A COAT WITH FUR TRIM.

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CHOICES CARD #27

BUY A WOOL SWEATER.

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CHOICES CARD #28

BUY A DOWN PILLOW.

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CHOICES CARD #29

HUNT GEESE.

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CHOICES CARD #30

SET GLUE TRAPS IN YOUR HOUSE  
TO CATCH MICE.

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CHOICES CARD #31

THROW GARBAGE ON THE GROUND.

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CHOICES CARD #32

GO FISHING.

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CHOICES CARD #26

BUY A COAT WITHOUT FUR TRIM.

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CHOICES CARD #25

BUY CANVAS SHOES.

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CHOICES CARD #28

BUY A POLYPROPYLENE-FILLED PILLOW.

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CHOICES CARD #27

BUY A COTTON OR SYNTHETIC SWEATER.

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CHOICES CARD #30

CONTROL MICE BY KEEPING YOUR HOUSE CLEAN, SEALING ALL CRACKS IN THE WALLS AND FOUNDATION, AND USING HUMANE TRAPS TO REMOVE THEM.

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CHOICES CARD #29

SHOOT PHOTOS OF GEESE WITH A CAMERA.

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CHOICES CARD #32

GO SWIMMING OR CANOEING.

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CHOICES CARD #31

CUT UP SIX-PACK RINGS, RECYCLE, AND PUT GARBAGE INTO TRASH CANS.

KINDNESS TO ANIMALS = VIOLENCE PREVENTION