

# I Help Wildlife

*An extension of "Crippled elephant gets a new leg"*

**"Crippled elephant gets a new leg"** (*What's Up* August 2016, page 16) is a story about kind adults helping injured elephants. Even kids can help wildlife in several ways. Here are some suggestions for you. Tick  the boxes of those items that you would like to do. Then, carry out these activities.

## A. LEARN ABOUT ANIMALS

- Learn through online games.** Many international websites have games and quizzes for you. For example, explore *WWF's* "Fun and Games" ► [http://www.panda.org/how\\_you\\_can\\_help/games](http://www.panda.org/how_you_can_help/games).
- Sign up for free e-newsletters.** If you have an email account, this is an easy way to receive news about animals. The agencies' official websites will tell you how to sign up. For instance, to receive ACRES updates, just send an email ► [info@acres.org.sg](mailto:info@acres.org.sg).
- Read book and magazines.** There are many books and magazines at public libraries about caring for pets and protecting wildlife. If you're a rabbit lover, the *House Rabbits Society of Singapore* recommends books for you ► [http://www.hrss.net/links/links\\_books.html](http://www.hrss.net/links/links_books.html).

## B. SPREAD THE WORD

- Use Screen Wallpapers .** Some agencies offer free downloads for you to install as your computer's wallpaper. These have pro-animal messages. For instance, *Singapore SPCA* has free downloads ► <http://www.worldwildlife.org/site/PageServer?pagename=wallpapersignup>.
- Link from your online space.** Singapore's *Cat Welfare Society (CWS)* hopes that cat lovers will link the CWS official website to their personal blogs, websites or any other online space. For instructions ► <http://www.catwelfare.org/node/869>.
- Give gifts with messages.** The next time you have to buy a present for someone, consider giving a gift with a message about animals. For example, go to the online 'Gift Gallery' of *Action for Singapore Dogs* for gift ideas ► <http://www.asdsingapore.com>.
- Write letters.** You can write letters to companies that run marine life parks or circuses that have animal shows to tell them what kids like you feel about using animals for human entertainment. Tell them what you know about wildlife being held captured and used in shows.

## C. GET INTO ACTION MODE

- Become a volunteer.** The websites of our local animal welfare agencies also suggest ways in which students can volunteer. You can help to take care of animals, raise funds and even write articles for their newsletters.
- Adopt a stray.** If your family is interested in keeping a pet, then consider adopting from one of these agencies. Another option is provide foster care (that is, looking after the animal until a permanent home is found).
- Refuse products made from body parts of endangered species.** Just say "no" to shark-fin soup, snake-skin bags, and curios made from ivory and other animal parts. Avoid circuses and shows that use live wild animals and make them do tricks, stunts or dances for entertainment.
- Report abuse.** When you see anyone treating animals badly, call **6287-5355** and report it.

NOTE: *As many of the above need you to use the internet or to contact adults, you must get the permission of your parents/guardians first. Keeping yourself safe is as important as protecting animals!*