



***Snapshot*: Questions and Enrichment Readings and Activities**

1. The author of *Snapshot* suggests that the young girl in her story communicated with the donkey and she “felt his essence.” Do you believe that you can communicate with your pets or other animals you come in contact with? What are some signs that the animal is connecting with you? Can you list them?

Here are some readings that will help you learn more about animal language:

[*What Dog Body Language Is Saying*](#)

[*Dog Body Language*](#) (enrichment sheet)

[*A Guide to Cat Body Language*](#)

[*Cat Body Language and Safety Around Cats*](#) (enrichment sheet)

[*Cat Body Language*](#) (short video)

2. The accompanying section in the book describes how throughout history donkeys have played important roles in people’s lives, not only as work animals, but also as companions. Have you ever had an experience in which an animal has helped you either emotionally or

physically, or have you witnessed an animal helping others? Can you write a brief story about your experience?

Read more about the different services animals provide to individuals and communities at:

[*Service Dogs, Therapy Dogs, and Emotional Support Animals—Important Differences*](#)

3. Because in many cultures donkeys are considered work animals, their care and emotional needs are very often neglected. Can you research worldwide organizations that provide care or support for the animals in a particular region of the world?

The Donkey Sanctuary, an organization featured in *Snapshot*, is responsible for ten donkey sanctuaries in the United Kingdom, providing care for more than 6,000 donkeys. To read more about the Donkey Sanctuary, go to: www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk.

Read more about animals in other cultures by visiting:

[*Attitudes Toward Pets in Other Cultures*](#)

4. Kids as **Ambassadors of Compassion**: The young girl in the story *Snapshot* devises a way to help the donkey by engaging the community and her classmates in raising money for the purchase of a donkey companion. The actions she takes to help the donkey have a happier life enrich her own life, as well.

Can you describe how you have helped an animal? Do you have an original idea to help an animal organization or others in your community give assistance to our furry, feathered, or finned friends?

5. Visit the website of your local or state humane society to learn about volunteer opportunities in your community. You could be enlisted to help in the care and feeding of shelter animals or possibly create a pet rescue database or design a web page to help with adoption of animals.

Here are a few suggestions for how you can become an **Ambassador of Compassion**:

- Organize a holiday gift drive with your classmates to collect pet toy donations for a local shelter or rescue organization.
- Talk with city council members about establishing a dog park in your community.
- Coordinate a walk-a-thon with classmates to raise money for an animal organization.

Suggested sites that you can visit include:

World Wildlife Organization: <https://www.worldwildlife.org/>

Humane Society International: <http://www.hsi.org/>

Check out [Mow Wow Animals](#) and [PAHS' Video Series Touchy-Feely Talks](#): Mini lessons about fur, feathers, scales and scutes—great for classroom and at-home learning.