Name_____

Animal Rights

Do animals have rights? Many people believe they should and do have rights. Animal activists often gather in various organizations to protect animals from being used for things that they consider cruel or unusual. Their work often makes a huge difference in how animals are treated.

Why would people believe animals should have rights? Animal-rights activists believe that since animals can feel pain and distress and since some animals can even reason, then they should not be used for things such as experimental tests, human entertainment, or food. Other activists believe that animals should not be used for clothing. For example, these believers in animal rights are against anyone wearing fur coats or clothing made from leather. Many animal activists fight for the rights of animals in specific categories. For example, some might fight for animal rights in developing medicines, while others might raise awareness against animals being used for food.

One way activists help animals is by operating rescue groups for hurt animals or animals that are in danger. People often give large monetary donations to help these groups run shelters. Major organizations exist all over the world to help fight for animal rights. The popularity of these groups seems to have expanded in the last few decades, in part, because many organizations now have celebrity endorsements to help spread their message. Also, the expanded use of technology has helped spread their message to more and more people.

Text Questions

1. Which sentence best explains why some people believe animals have rights?
   a. Many people believe they should and do have rights.
   b. Animal activists often gather in various organizations to protect animals from being used for things that they consider cruel or unusual.
   c. Animal-rights activists believe that since animals can feel pain and distress and since some animals can even reason, then they should not be used for things such as experimental tests, human entertainment, or food.
   d. Other activists believe that animals should not be used for clothing.

2. Which sentence is an opinion about animal rights?
   a. All animals should be treated with love and care.
   b. Some animals show the ability to reason.
   c. Animal-rights activists often operate shelters for animals that are in danger.
   d. Some celebrities help endorse animal-rights organizations.

3. What are two ways mentioned in the text that animal-rights activists are able to make a difference?
   a. They operate shelters and carry out protests.
   b. They show videos on the internet about animal cruelty, and they offer free legal services.
   c. They run shelters for animals and seek celebrity endorsements for their cause.
   d. They have a strong belief in their cause, and they adopt all animals that are in danger.

4. Which reason is <u>not</u> given for why some people believe in animal rights?
   a. Animals are loving and kind to those who love them in return.
   b. Some animals have the ability to reason.
   c. Animals can feel pain.
   d. Animals are known to show signs of distress.

5. Why might technology be an important tool in helping activists with animal rights?
   a. Animals will often sit still for hours when television shows are being played.
   b. Music helps soothe animals who are in distress.
   c. Activists can spread their message to more people via technology.
   d. People watching videos about animal rights are less apt to send money to organizations wanting to protect animals.

LIVEWORKSHEETS