

EVIDENCE

1. Draw a squirrel

2. Checking the title “PETA Honors Teens Who Rescued a Suffering Squirrel” write the ideas that you consider could be possible to find in the text

PETA Honors Teens Who Rescued a Suffering Squirrel

Two New Brunswick, Canada, teens came across a squirrel in desperate need of help—but at first, they didn’t even know he was a squirrel.

Jaydon Pettipas and Aidan Hart saw a group of people gathered near a car, and then they saw a nearly unrecognizable animal struggling to breathe and move: a squirrel who was almost entirely covered with hard foam insulation. When looking at the photographs, it’s hard to **fathom** how this little animal could still be alive. But luckily, the teens sprang into action, quickly containing the squirrel and asking friends and family for advice.

Eventually, they were able to find a vet clinic that agreed to see the squirrel. They got him to the clinic, and after the foam insulation was removed and he was treated, the vet was able to release him back into the wild!

All animals have the ability to feel love, joy, pain, and fear and to value their own lives. And when an animal is in need, it’s up to **good Samaritans** like Jaydon and Aidan to take action. When we see someone suffering, we should always try to help—regardless of the **species**—and that’s exactly what Jaydon and Aidan did.

Without these two compassionate teens, the squirrel might never have received the help that he so desperately needed and deserved. For their compassion, PETA presented them with a Hero to Animals Award.

If you ever come across an animal in danger, please take action. If the animal is in **imminent** danger, contact your local police department immediately

3. Using contextual evidence from the passage, define the bolded terms in your own words.

Fathom

Good Samaritans

Species

Imminent

4. Answering the questions

1. According to the article, what do all animals have in common? What other similarities do they share?

2. Why do you think PETA presented Jaydon and Aidan with a Hero to

Animals Award?

3. Why do you think the author of the article refers to the squirrel using the personal pronoun “he” rather than the impersonal pronoun “it”?

4. Have you ever seen an animal who needed help? What did you do, or what would you tell others to do in the same situation?

5. Checking the title “Hotel Chain Ends Fish-Rental Program With PETA’s Help” what do you know about the topic

6. Read the text and

A. What ideas do you have about this title “Hotel Chain Ends Fish-Rental Program with PETA’s Help”

Hotel Chain Ends Fish-Rental Program With PETA’s Help

After PETA contacted boutique hotelier Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group, LLC, the chain agreed to end its fish-rental program, in which live fish were delivered to guests’ rooms upon request. PETA gave the company information about fish sensitivity and requirements and explained that the goldfish and guppies used for rentals suffered when confined to small bowls and shuttled from one stressful environment to another.

Kimpton Hotels and PETA worked together to place the more than 200 fish in permanent adoptive homes. This was presumably a welcome change for the fish, who are far more intelligent than many people give them credit for. For example, fish converse with one another through a range of low-frequency sounds to communicate courtship, alarm, or submission. They can recognize themselves and other fish, eavesdrop on conversations between other fish, and even tend a garden, just like humans. They’re social animals who **languish** in small tanks. A behavioral ecologist at the University of Bern in Switzerland, said, “Fish have some of the most complex social systems known.”

And fish can of course feel pain. They have a complex nervous system (which interprets pain signals) and react to painful stimuli the way all animals do—their breathing rate increases, their muscles contract, and they try to escape. Dr. Donald Broom, former scientific adviser to the British government, states that anatomically, physiologically, and biologically, the nervous system in fish is virtually the same as in mammals.

While ordinarily, PETA would never **advocate** putting any fish in a tank, these fish—who would have continued to suffer as they were carted from hotel room to hotel room—are now swimming, jumping, and diving their way around their new spacious tanks, which are full of plants, clean water, and loads of **stimulation** to keep them content.

“As a pet-friendly hospitality company, we decided to discontinue the Guppy Love program,” said a Kimpton spokesperson. “We look forward to

continuing to welcome pets of all shapes and sizes to our hotels.”

PETA Executive Vice President Tracy Reiman added, “Scientists have proved that fish become depressed from a lack of space, stimulation, and adequate **enrichment**, just as humans do. PETA applauds Kimpton for making the kind decision to discontinue this program.”

PETA asks anyone who is considering acquiring fish to adopt instead of supporting the pet trade and to do research beforehand into providing fish with the extensive care they need and deserve.

You can help put a stop to the commercial “pet” trade by never supporting companies that put profit before the well-being of animals. Fish are at their happiest and healthiest when free to swim in their natural habitats. Reputable local rescue groups and shelters often have fish who need new homes. If you already have aquatic animals, make sure they have a sizable amount of water, appropriate climate control and filtration, regular aquarium cleaning, and ample psychological enrichment. You can also make their lives more pleasant by providing them with an environment that’s as much like their natural habitat as possible. To learn more about fish and how to care for them, visit PETA.org/CaringForFish, and share this information with others who have fish.

b. Using contextual evidence from the passage, define the bolded terms in your own words.

Languish

Advocate

Stimulation

Enrichment

c. Answer these questions

1. How did the fish suffer in the hotel’s fish-rental program?
2. What similarities do fish share with humans?
3. How do all animals, including fish, respond to painful stimuli?
4. Do you think it’s ethical to buy fish and other living beings from stores? Explain your answer.