7 A Lot Like Us

Animal Helpers

Some people think that humans are superior to animals because we have a sense of justice and compassion which animals don't have, but a recent study in animal **behaviour** at the University of Colorado in America shows that animals are a lot **like** us. The study demonstrates how animals can show empathy for other animals **in the wild**. In 2003, 11 elephants in South Africa **helped** some antelopes to **escape** from an enclosure. We also know that dolphins frequently help humans to escape from sharks. Wolves in the wild live in a society with **strict** rules for behaviour and show respect for their **elders**, just like humans. We can see from these few examples that animals have a sense of compassion and justice which makes them very similar to humans.

behaviour = comportamento
like = come
in the wild = che vivono liberi in natura
helped = hanno aiutato
escape = scappare
strict = rigide
elders = anziani

glossary

---

1 Leggi l'articolo "Animal Helpers" e segna vero (**T**) o falso (**F**).
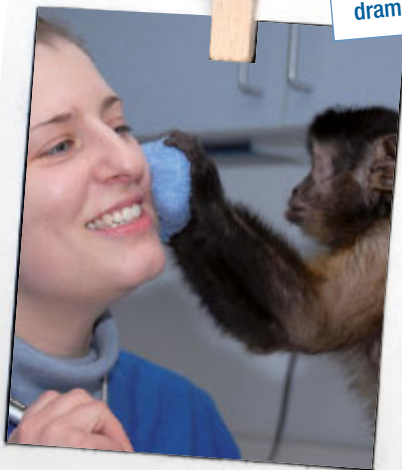
1 Animals are superior to humans. T F
2 Animals show empathy in the wild. T F
3 Sharks help humans to escape from dolphins. T F
4 Wolves live in a society with strict rules. T F
5 Animals have a sense of justice similar to humans. T F

2 Correggi le frasi false sul tuo quaderno.

Helping Hands

Capuchin monkeys are ideal companions for disabled people. They can help people with spinal injuries by washing their face, playing CDs, answering the telephone or turning the pages of a book.

Man's Best Friend

Dogs and cats are important in therapy for old and sick people. When people caress an animal they relax and forget their discomfort.
People love talking to cats and dogs and sharing their feelings. For some old people, a pet can be the best friend they have.

The Power to Heal

Dolphins have the power to heal. The reason that swimming with dolphins can cure problems like autism is a mystery but many autistic children experience dramatic results when they swim with dolphins.

English Humour
What do you get when you cross a biscuit with an elephant?
Crumbs!

3 Leggi i testi sugli animali che aiutano le persone e guarda le foto. Poi completa le frasi.

1 Capuchin monkeys can help ....

2 Dogs can help ....

3 Dolphins can help ....

4 Pensa a due situazioni in cui gli animali aiutano l'uomo, come nell'esempio.

Ex. Dogs: they help people move sheep and goats.

5 Lavorate in coppia. Lo studente A pensa ad un animale ma non dice quale. Lo studente B cerca di indovinarlo ponendo delle domande, ma lo studente A può rispondere solo "Yes" o "No", come nell'esempio.

B: It is big?
A: Yes.
B: Does it live in Europe?
A: No.
B: Does it help people?
A: Yes …