

YEAR 7 ETHICS UNIT 3: SHOULD ANIMALS HAVE RIGHTS?

Overview

This unit follows on from Unit 2 on Introduction to Morality. The Western religions of Christianity, Judaism and Islam suggest that although all forms of life were created by God, there is a hierarchy of species with humans described as having dominion over the animals. What that actually means is open to debate. The eastern religions of Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism teach that all forms of life are equally precious because all forms of life are interlinked.

Animals and humans

How are animals different from humans?

What qualities do animals and humans share?

Are animals less important than humans?



How are animals used by humans?

What are some of the ways animals can be used by humans?

Workers – sniffer dogs/pulling machines/search and rescue dogs

Companions and helpers – pets/guide dogs/

Farming – helpers/power/food

Zoos, Safari Parks and Aquariums – entertainment/breeding programs

Sport – racing/riding/blood sports

Fur and Ivory Trade – hunting/poaching of animals for those things

Hunting – for food/sport

Animal Experiments – GM/vivisection/medical research

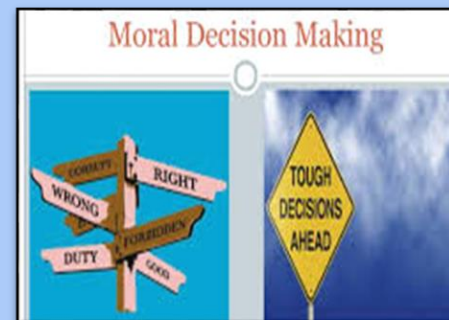
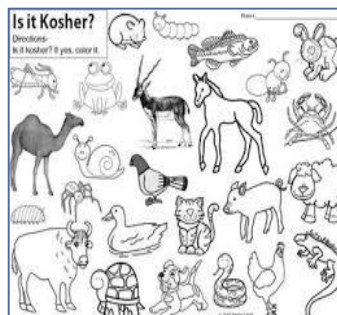
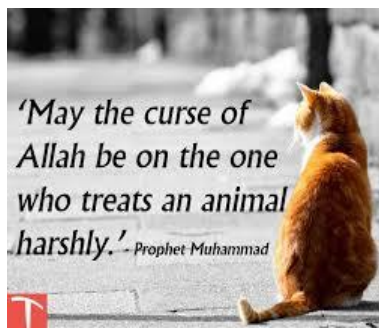


Key Words

Belief
Believe
Christianity
Christians
Islam
Muslims
Sikhism
Sikh
Judaism
Jewish
Buddhism
Buddha
Buddhist
Hinduism
Hindu
Morals
Endangered
Free range
campaign
Slaughter
Vivisection
Poaching
Enforcement
Cloning
Experimentation
Genetic
modification
Vegetarianism
Vegan
Stewardship
Sentient being
Organisation
Campaign

Religious and non-religious views

What are the views of religions on the uses of animals?
What do religions teach about the treatment of animals?



Animal Organisations

How many can you name?
What do these organisations do to help animals?



Key Words

Belief
Believe
Christianity
Christians
Islam/Muslims
Sikhism/Sikh
Judaism/Jewish
Buddhism
Buddha
Buddhist
Hinduism/Hindu
Morals
Endangered
Free range
campaign
Slaughter
Vivisection
Poaching
Enforcement
Cloning
Experimentation
Genetic
modification
Vegetarianism
Vegan
Stewardship
Sentient being
Organisation
Campaign
Veterinarian
veterinary nurse
Biologist
Inspector

So what is your view?

Should animals have rights?
Should they be exactly the same as humans?
What rights do you think animals should have?
How can we protect the animals of the earth but also preserve human life?
What are the alternatives to the uses of animals by humans?

