

March Answer Key



A tisket, a tasket, don't put a live bunny or chick in an Easter basket!

Complete the sample flyer using the words in the box.

animals	care
children	ducklings
hug	lifetime
pets	scratch
shelters	thousands

Dear Parent,

Are you thinking that a chick, duckling, or bunny would make a great Easter gift? Please think again! We learned in *KIND News* this month that giving an animal as a gift can be a big mistake. Here are some important things you should know.

Each year, **thousands** of animals are given as Easter gifts. Most of the animals do not live for more than a few days or weeks. Of those who survive, many are left at animal **shelters** or abandoned in fields. Most people don't realize—and aren't prepared for—how much **care** the animals need.

Sure, they're cute, but chicks, bunnies, and **ducklings** are not good **pets** for children. The small animals' bones are very fragile. A loving **hug** from a young child can cause injury or death to the delicate animals.

Handling the animals can also be dangerous to **children**. Bunnies do not like to be held and might bite or **scratch** when picked up. Ducklings and chicks can carry Salmonella bacteria. Handling the animals could expose children to the bacteria, causing serious illness.

A pet is a **lifetime** commitment, not a holiday toy. We hope you'll take our advice and not put real **animals** in your child's Easter basket. Your child will enjoy a toy rabbit or chocolate bunny even better—we know we would!

Thank you,

_____ KIND Club

