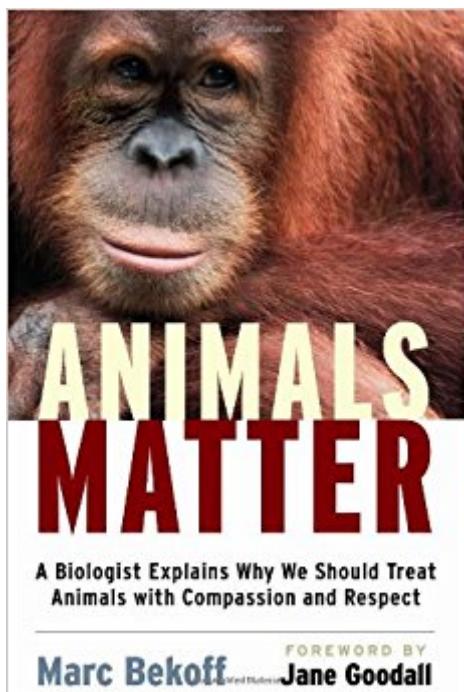


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# Animals Matter: A Biologist Explains Why We Should Treat Animals With Compassion And Respect



## Synopsis

Nonhuman animals have many of the same feelings we do. They get hurt, they suffer, they are happy, and they take care of each other. Marc Bekoff, a renowned biologist specializing in animal minds and emotions, guides readers from high school age up— including older adults who want a basic introduction to the topic—in looking at scientific research, philosophical ideas, and humane values that argue for the ethical and compassionate treatment of animals. Citing the latest scientific studies and tackling controversies with conviction, he zeroes in on the important questions, inviting reader participation with “thought experiments” and ideas for action. Among the questions considered: Are some species more valuable or more important than others? Do some animals feel pain and suffering and not others? Do animals feel emotions? Should endangered animals be reintroduced to places where they originally lived? Should animals be kept in captivity? Are there alternatives to using animals for food, clothing, cosmetic testing, and dissection in the science classroom? What can we learn by imagining what it feels like to be a dog or a cat or a mouse or an ant? What can we do to make a difference in animals’ quality of life? Bekoff urges us not only to understand and protect animals—especially those whose help we want for our research and other human needs—but to love and respect them as our fellow beings on this planet that we all want to share in peace.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Animal behaviorist and biologist Bekoff follows his most recent in-depth work, *The Emotional Life of Animals*, with another well-written, more generalist argument for responsible behavior toward animals of all kinds. A revised and updated edition of his 2000 *Strolling with Our Kin*, an introduction for young readers to ethical issues relating to the use of animals, the writing still feels aimed at younger readers, but the new elements include an excellent review of current debates regarding animal sentience, animal relocation efforts and medical school dissection and vivisection. He also offers the evidence that "zoos actually do little to increase biodiversity," failing both to advocate for conservation and in their attempts to reintroduce captive animals into the wild. This levelheaded brief for animal rights deserves to be read by people of all ages, from teens and 20-somethings turned on to animal activism by vegetarian pop stars like Moby, to parents, teachers and other adults with the hope that they will "make more responsible decisions after reading this book and discussing the issues with family and friends." Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

"People who want to end animal exploitation sometimes are accused of being unscientific and uninformed. Marc Bekoff's *Animals Matter* is (and for a long time will remain) the gold standard when it comes to offering a scientific, informed response to these reckless charges. As Bekoff demonstrates, a scientifically informed understanding of who animals are supports their liberation from the hands of human tyranny." •Tom Regan, author of *The Case for Animal Rights* and *Empty Cages* "Marc Bekoff is the wisest scientist I know, for he is the only expert who truly loves animals in the way that children are able to love animals, with all his heart. Listen to him. Read this book, give it to friends, celebrate this wonderful event." •Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, author of *Altruistic Armadillos, Zenlike Zebras* "It's not every day that a world-class scientist tries to explain his ideas to a general audience. Marc Bekoff not only helps us to understand nature and animals, but also shows us how to love them." •Dale Jamieson, author of *Ethics and the Environment*

An excellent read. Very informative and well written by a great author, a great biologist. If you had any question in your mind why animals matter, You know why animals matter after reading this book. It is a book for your mind and your heart.

Item was exactly as described. Thank you!

Excellent, concise book. Many animal welfare issues are covered in this one book. A great introduction and reference to important animal issues.

recommend this one.

**EVERYONE SHOULD READ, BE INFORMED AND UNDERSTAND - WHY ANIMALS MATTER!!!!!!**

The master of Animal's literature , a Biologist with a vast/huge experience this field . Strongly recommended for anyone ...

This book is AMAZING. Every paragraph has at least a quotable sentence. If you are an animal lover you are going to love it.

very heavy on the philosophy of the subject. if you want to really enjoy reading about the subject, look somewhere else. the guy really knows his stuff but can't get it across to the lay person.

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