



Hedgehog Welfare Society Newsletter #79

January / February, 2016

To protect the well-being of pet hedgehogs through rescue, research, and education of the people who care for them.



Pet Hedgehogs Legal in Arizona!

Last month a miraculous change was made in Arizona law! Residents of the state were granted permission to own pet hedgehogs! According to Pat Crouch, field supervisor for Arizona's Game and Fish Department, ownership of pet hedgehogs became legal as of December fifth, 2015, when hedgehogs were officially removed from the state's list of restricted wildlife. He went on to explain the department's view of the situation: "Originally, some of the hedgehogs brought in from different parts of the world could have survived here in the wild and been a problem for native species. But the type that is now sold as pets wouldn't survive in the wild and become a problem."

Kenneth MacNeil, proprietor of **An Exotic Pet Shop** in Tucson, had this to say about the change:

I'm getting fifteen of them this month. Some customers have been asking for them, and we'll have a few for sale.

They're cute little animals. It's something like having a porcupine that's not so intimidating. Hedgehogs are slightly pokey, but they tend to put their quills down so you can hold them and pet them.

Sources:

Kreutz, Douglas. "Arizona makes pet hedgehogs legal." *Tucson.com*. Arizona Daily Star, 8 Dec.2015. Web. 30 Dec. 2015. <http://tucson.com/news/local/arizona-makes-pet-hedgehogs-legalarticle_1e205be9-d100-56c1-a78e-1d171430850e.html>.

Zarbock, Marylou. "Hedgehog Pets Are Now Legal In Arizona." *Small Animal Channel*. N.p., 11 Dec. 2015. Web. 30 Dec. 2015. <<http://www.smallanimalchannel.com/critter-news/2015/12/11/hedgehog-pets-are-now-legal-in-arizona-1512-trending.aspx>>.

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Beatrix Potter

*Rarely do I meet someone who does not refer to Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle at some point in a discussion about the attraction of hedgehogs. — Hugh Warwick**

Helen Beatrix Potter was born on July 28th, 1866 in London. Both her parents lived on money inherited from the cotton trade and Beatrix had a traditional upper-middle class childhood. She was educated at home by a governess and seldom met other children. Her father encouraged her artistic talent by taking her to museums in London and introducing her to the Pre-Raphaelite painter, Sir John Everett. By the time Beatrix was eight, she was filling her sketchbooks with drawings of plants and animals.

Beatrix and her brother Bertram loved animals and spent hours sketching the pets they were allowed to keep in their school room. The collection included frogs, a tortoise, a bat, and salamanders. The children supplemented this menagerie by smuggling mice, rabbits and hedgehogs into the house in paper bags.

In her 20s, Beatrix spent hours at the Cromwell Road museums where she studied and sketched plants and animals. She even wrote a paper titled "*On the Germination of the Spores or Agaricineae (gilled fungi)*". Her uncle, a well-known chemist, arranged for the paper to be presented to the Linnean Society (an all-male scientific society). Her theories were rejected, probably because she was an amateur and a woman.

After this rejection, she began to concentrate on drawing and painting and earned a small income from a greeting card company. She also began to write and illustrate letters which she sent to the children of a former governess. The story of Peter Rabbit was originally composed as a letter to the governess's son, Noel. Eventually Beatrix would borrow the letter back to produce her first book for children, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*.

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**The Hedgehog's Dilemma: A Tale of Obsession, Nostalgia, and the World's Most Charming Mammal*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2008. p. 155.

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For eleven summers the Potter family stayed at Dalguise House on the River Tay in Perthshire and for each of these summers they employed a Scottish washerwoman named Kitty MacDonald. In 1892, when Beatrix was 26 years old, she visited Mrs. MacDonald and wrote the following in her journal:

Went out with the pony...to see Kitty MacDonald, our old washerwoman...Kitty is eighty-three and delightfully merry...She is a comical, round little woman, and wears a multitude of petticoats and a white mutch (a ruffled cap). Her memory goes back for seventy years, and I really believe she is prepared to enumerate the articles of her first wash in the year 1871

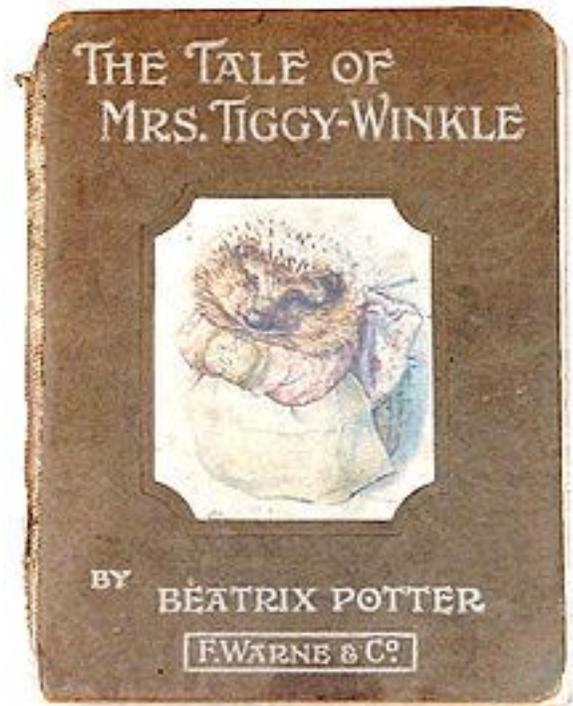
Kitty MacDonald was the inspiration for *The Tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle*. The story may have been conceived as early as 1886 but Beatrix Potter did not begin to refine the story until 1901 when she was visiting an estate called Lingholm in the Lake District of England.

The model for the book was Potter's own pet hedgehog, also named Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle. On November 12, 1901 she wrote a letter describing the process of drawing her:

Mrs. Tiggy as a model is comical; so long as she can go to sleep on my knee she is delighted, but if she is propped up on end for half an hour, she first begins to yawn pathetically, and then she *does* bit! Nevertheless, she is a dear person; just like a very fat rather stupid little dog. I think the book will go all right when once started.

On July 2, 1905, the illustrations and revised text for *Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle* were sent to her publisher, F. Warne & Company. Potter expressed regret that the production was over.

The book was dedicated to "the real little Lucie of Newlands" and Lucie's copy of the book contained this message: "For little Lucie with much love from Beatrix Potter and from dear 'Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle' Sept. 24. 1905".



First edition of The Tale of Mrs Tiggy-Winkle



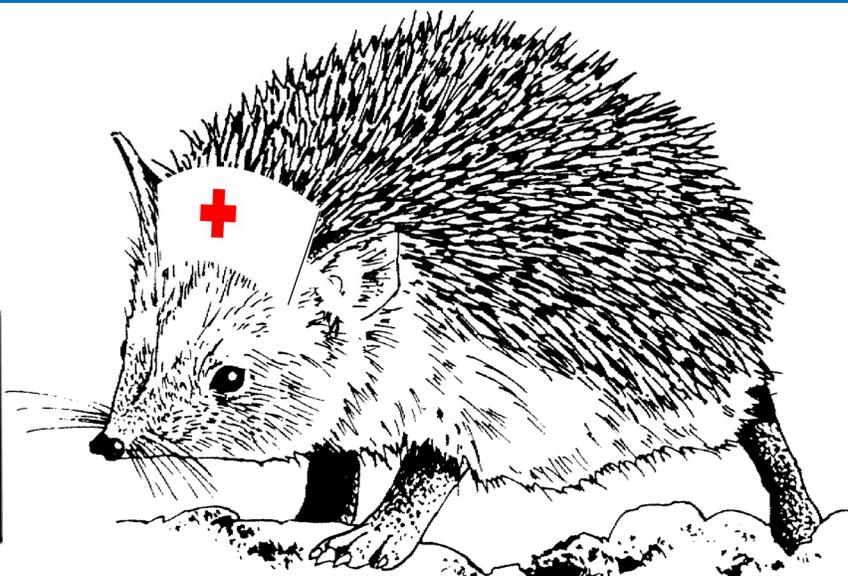
Mr. Pricklepin appears in *Appley Dapplys Nursery Rhymes*, published in 1917.



1993 Gibraltar Crown featuring Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle. Peter Rabbit Centennial series



<http://www.clipartbest.com/first-aid-kit-clipart>



<http://www.wildlife-animals.com/coloring-pages/hedgehog-2.gif>

<http://cliparts.co/nurse-hat-clip-art>

Preparing a Hedgehog First Aid Kit : Why and How

By Laura C. Dunklee

HWS Co-Chair for Health, Research, and Education

This article focuses on preparing a hedgehog first aid kit; I'd encourage reading two articles from previous editions of the HWS Newsletter, as well:

Preparing for an Evacuation: <http://hedgehogwelfare.org/newsletters/volume75.pdf>

Stocking a Food First Aid Kit: http://hedgehogwelfare.org/newsletters/volume30_2.pdf

WHY YOU NEED A FIRST AID KIT FOR YOUR HEDGEHOG

If you have a hedgehog, it's important to have a well-stocked first aid kit on hand. Non-life-threatening health issues can arise at any time, and having a kit ready to go means you're not tearing around the house looking for what you need. Also, a kit is essential to have in the event you're evacuated, as it has what's needed to cover the basics in case something happens during the evacuation.

The following information is broken down into types of supplies, food and medical, with an explanation of where each can be purchased and how they're used.

FOOD AND FOOD-RELATED SUPPLIES

- Hills A/D canned cat food: Purchase from vet. This is a high protein food that is extremely soft and easily fed via syringe.
- Emeraid® Omnivore and Emeraid® Carnivore: Purchase from vet, though they may need to be special ordered. (NOTE: Make sure you speak to your vet about how and when to use these foods.) These are powdered foods that need to be combined in order to achieve a good balance for your hedgehog (your vet will advise on how much of each to use). Once you mix the two powders together, you then add water. This mixture can be fed via syringe or in a small dish if your hedgehog is sick. OR, you can use:
- Oxbow® Carnivore Care: Purchase from vet. This is another powdered food you add liquid to in order to make a slurry that can be fed via a syringe. Purchase from a vet. Some hedgehogs like it, others do not. Some owners have better luck when combining it with another food or foods. It is very high in protein and needs to be fed as a part of a food mix, not a primary food.
- Plain chicken baby food: Purchase from grocery store. This is high protein, easy to digest, and can easily go through a syringe. Be sure to use at a 2:1 ratio with either sweet potato baby food or a fruit baby food.
- Sweet potato baby food: Purchase from a grocery store. This is full of fiber and helps a hedgehog maintain a healthy digestive tract. It can be syringe fed.

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- Plain canned pumpkin (NOT pumpkin pie filling!): Purchase from a grocery store. This is a great source of fiber and can be given when a hedgehog is constipated or to help keep the hedgehog regular. Some hedgehog will happily eat it on their own, others may need to be syringe fed.
- 1cc and 3cc needle-less syringes: Purchase from a vet or online (individually or by the case); some pharmacies will also sell them to the public. These are essential, as they allow you to syringe-feed if your hedgehog stops eating. They are also important as a backup if your hedgehog requires oral medication. Many vets will only give you one or two syringes with the medicine. Most syringes are designed to be single-use; the more you use them, the more they breakdown, with the plunger often becoming sticky or stiff. The result can be a mess.
- 12cc curved tip feeding syringes: Purchase from your vet, a pharmacy, or online—the best prices are for a product called “Curved Dental Syringe.” The same product, then sold as a feeding syringe, is more expensive. There are no measurement markings on the syringe, but each holds 12ccs. These are great for syringe-feeding, as the narrow tip and curve make it easy to get into the hedgehog’s mouth. Depending on the consistency of the food being fed, you may need to trim off the end of the syringe tip to make the opening a bit wider. If you do this, be sure there are no rough edges!

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

- *Vetericyn Plus All Animal Wound & Skin Care Spray*: Available at some pet stores, from vets, and online. This is a wonderful topical spray that can be safely used on wounds, from an abraded / cracked food to an area of self-mutilization. It doesn’t sting, has no alcohol, and is safe if the hedgehog licks at it. Talk with your vet or make sure they’re okay with you using it.
- Nail clippers or baby scissors with rounded tips: Purchase from a drugstore or online. Use for trimming nails. Some people prefer to use cuticle or emery embroidery scissors, some of which have straight blades and others which have curved blades. You need clippers / scissors that you can handle comfortably and securely.
- Styptic powder / pads / gel or small amount of lina white flour in a ziplock bag: Powder can be purchased at pet stores or online. This is used to stop bleeding if you accidentally cut the quick when trimming nails, or if your hedgehog tears a nail. Pinch a bit of powder or flour and squeeze firmly around the bleeding foot. It will likely take a few minutes for the bleeding to stop.
- Small gauze pads: Purchase at drugstore or online. These are handy when a hedgehog rips a nail or you nick the quick. Apply the Styptic powder or gel, then place the gauze pad over the toe and apply gentle pressure for several minutes, until

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until the bleeding has stopped and the blood has clotted.

- Q-tips, cotton balls, cotton pads: Purchase at drugstore or online. You can use these to apply ointment or gel, to clean around the genitals if you have an incontinent hedgehog, or to clean the feet. If you're using the cotton balls or pads, dip them in warm — not hot — water and make sure the hedgehog is thoroughly dry before you return them to their habitat.
- Chlorhexidine Solution antiseptic skin cleanser: Purchase from your vet, drugstore, or online. Can be used to clean small wounds. First clean the area with warm water, then pour a little of the cleanser on a cotton ball or pad and gently clean the area. Next, rinse the area thoroughly and dry. Note: Make sure you are using a diluted solution — it should be a very light blue.
- Vetrap Tape, self-adhesive and flexible bandage roll, 2" size: Purchase from vet or online. This is self-adhesive, flexible bandage material. It can be wrapped around parts of the hedgehog's body to keep a bandage in place.
- KVP Saf-T-Shield Recovery Collar for Rodents (girth 2.25" to 3.0 neck): Purchase from vet or online. These are acceptable to use on a hedgehog recovering from surgery or injury, where you need to keep them from licking or biting at the affected area. You may need to trim a bit, so the hedgehog can eat and drink. Another option, though harder to find, are cloth recovery collars in the same size.
- Disposable hand warmers / body warmers and sock to put in: Purchase at drugstore or online. Look for the larger size—usually called a body warmer—with long-lasting heat. The HotHands Body & Hand Super Warmer (purchase on Amazon) is a great choice. You'll need a sock, too, to put the warmer in. These are air-activated and last for around 12 hours.
- Blunt-tip or round tip tweezers: Purchase at a drugstore (in the beauty department) or online. These are perfect for removing bits of fleece or other items that end up at the base of a hedgehog's quills. They are also essential if your hedgehog has hair or thread wrapped around a leg.
- Disposable, unscented / fragrance free, hypoallergenic baby wipes: Purchase at a drugstore or online. These are incredibly handy. You can use them to wipe down a hedgehog's quills and to clean their feet when you can't bathe them.
- Hand Sanitizer: Purchase at a drugstore or online. This is essential, as it ensures your hands are clean and free of germs before handling your hedgehog. Take it with you when you go to the vet, take your hedgehog out in public, and when you go to hedgehog shows. It doesn't kill all germs, but many of them. You can purchase it as a gel or in individual packets as wipes.

Normally Humilac — a moisturizing spray — would be on this list. However, Virbac, the company that made Humilac, has ceased manufacturing it. As of when this article was being written, a replacement product has yet to be found.

Stocking a first aid kit for your hedgehog can take a bit of time, but it is well worth it to be prepared!



Doctored photograph by Margaret Myhre

Meet Maya the Sausage and her Hedgehog Friend



<https://www.instagram.com/mayathesausage> Used with permission.

Thoughts from the President

Deb Weaver

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!!! Not sure why 2015 was in such a hurry, but it seemed to pass in the blink of an eye. I hope 2016 brings to each of you much joy and happiness.

I'd like to thank - -

The Board of Directors for all their work in 2015. I appreciate all the heart and soul you put in to this organization.

Everyone who donated money to HWS in 2015, each and every penny was much appreciated.

Our web master, the site always looks good and is running as it should be. You keep us looking sharp!

All of our Rescue Site folks!!!! You rock - - and without you HWS wouldn't be able to function. Your compassion for these wee creatures we're all so in love with seems to know no bounds. Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you all.

And finally, everyone who adopted a hedgie through our organization in 2015 - - I hope your new family members are all you were hoping they'd be.

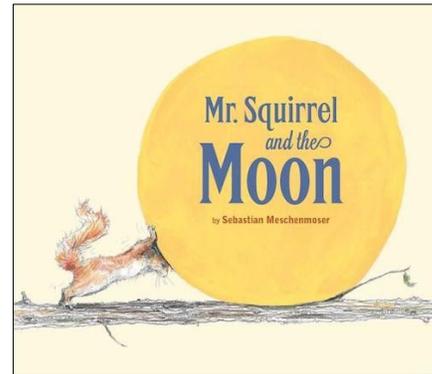
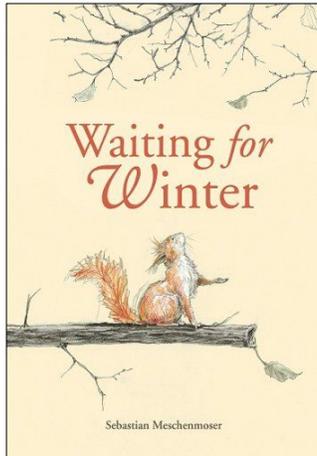
I look forward to working for and with you in 2016!!!



HEDGEHOG BIRTHDAYS

- 1/3 **Joey Campbell**
- 1/25 **Kenny Hoggins MacGhille Morrison**
- 2/1 **Bud Becker**
- 2/2 **Joey MacGhille Morrison**

The Literary Hedgehog : *Mr. Squirrel and the Moon*



In 2011, the January/February issue of *The Hedgehog Welfare Society Newsletter* included a review of *Waiting for Winter*, a beautiful book written and illustrated by Sebastian Meschenmoser. In this issue of the newsletter an earlier work by Mr. Meschenmoser is reviewed. *Mr. Squirrel and the Moon*, published in 2006, features the same squirrel and hedgehog duo that make *Waiting for Winter* so appealing.

The frontispiece of the book shows a small boy dressed in lederhosen and a traditional Alpine hat with a feather. He has just hurled what appears to be a gigantic wheel of cheese into the title page. The wheel rolls through the next two pages and flies off a cliff! It conveniently lands on a tree branch just outside Squirrel's home and comes to a halt among the twigs at the end of the branch.

Having never seen cheese, Squirrel immediately assumes that this large yellow disc is the moon. He fears that he will be accused of stealing the moon and sent to jail. He envisions himself sharing a bunk with a hardened criminal in a jail cell! He even imagines a tiny squirrel-sized toilet next to the toilet in the criminal's cell.

Squirrel realizes that he must get rid of the moon as quickly as possible. He frantically tries to roll the moon off his tree branch. But the branch breaks and the moon falls, landing directly on top of Hedgehog!

Now the moon is impaled on poor Hedgehog's quills and he is flattened under its weight! Hedgehog is in some pain but he is mostly worried about being sent to jail for stealing the moon. Using a tree branch as a fulcrum, Squirrel works frantically to free Hedgehog from the moon. Unfortunately, in the process Squirrel falls under the moon, while poor Hedgehog is hanging upside down, stuck to the moon by his quills.

Then Goat arrives. He tries to help by butting the moon with his horns. But the moon sticks to his horns, Hedgehog is stuck to the moon, and Squirrel is racing in frantic circles around Goat! Goat butts a tree with his horns, imbedding them in a tree trunk, the cheese is still stuck to Goat's horns, and Hedgehog is still stuck to the cheese. To make matters worse, bees are circling around the cheese which is beginning to smell!

Finally after a night spent dreaming of a prison cell with a scary criminal and Squirrel and Hedgehog sized toilets, morning arrives. Much to their surprise, Goat, Squirrel and Hedgehog awaken to see a large group of mice with bloated stomachs who are sleeping around the moon. The moon has now been reduced to a crescent moon. Goat, Squirrel, Hedgehog and the mice imagine themselves in a crowded jail cell.

Finally, working as a team, all the desperate animals turn a slender tree into slingshot and shoot the moon back into the sky. Where it remains.

Meschenmoser, Sebastian, and David H. Wilson. *Mr. Squirrel and the Moon*. New York: NorthSouth Books, Inc., 2015.

WRITERS WANTED



Would you like to write for the Newsletter? We are always Looking for stories, poems, craft Projects, recipes, puzzles, and Articles to include here.

Send your submissions or article Proposals to:
newsletter@hedgehogwelfare.org

ARTISTS WANTED



Would you like to help illustrate the Newsletter? We are always looking For drawings, photographs and art Work to include here.

Send your submissions in JPEG Format to:
newsletter@hedgehogwelfare.org

