### **Zoo asks for unwanted pets to feed to big cats**

A zoo in Denmark has made an unusual request to pet owners. The Aalborg Zoo in the north of the country has asked people to donate unwanted pets, such as chickens, guinea pigs, rabbits, and small horses. These will not be exhibited as part of the zoo's collection. Instead, they will become food for the resident big cats and other predators. The zoo is attempting "to imitate the natural food chain of the animals". It added that using the unwanted small creatures as food is practical because "nothing goes to waste, and we ensure the natural behaviour, nutrition and well-being of our predators". It reassured people that the donated pets will be "gently euthanized" before being fed to other animals.

The zoo said that the practice of putting down animals to be used as feed was common in Denmark. Pia Nielsen, deputy director of the zoo, said: "Many of our guests and partners appreciate the opportunity to contribute." Regardless, there has been mixed reaction on social media. Some people felt sad about the euthanasia scheme, and wanted to protest. However, a man who donated a horse to the zoo was satisfied with its treatment. He said his animal was put down "in the most peaceful and calm way". There is so much interest in helping the zoo that there are waiting lists to donate horses. Donors can even receive a tax deduction based on the animal's value.

**Homework:**

1. Write a full sentence answer for each question below.
2. To whom did a zoo appeal for unwanted pets?
3. What kinds of animals will end up eating the donated pets?
4. What does the zoo want to imitate?
5. What did the zoo say becomes wasted?
6. How are the donated pets put to death?
7. Who is appreciative of the chance to help the zoo?
8. How did some social media users feel about the euthanasia scheme?
9. How did a man feel about how his horse ended his days?
10. What is there a list to do at the zoo?
11. What can donors of horses get?

**Free Writing**

* Write about zoo pet food for 10 minutes.