

**11. Write an illustrated training manual** for beginners who want to learn to fish. Be sure to include information about fishing regulations in your state.

**12. Write and perform a rap** about Cornelia Thurza Crosby (her story, “Hooked on the Outdoors,” begins on page 122).

**13. Learn to tie flies.** The instructions at <http://zebu.uoregon.edu/~dmason/Mckenzie/flies.html> will help you to get started.

**14. Curl up with a good book:** Readers in the 4th grade and up will enjoy *Tom Longboat* by Bruce Kidd (Fitzhenry and Whiteside, 2004). For advanced readers, we recommend the biography *Fly Rod Crosby: The Woman Who Marketed Maine* by Julia A. Hunter (Tilbury House, 2000).

**15.** Using only Styrofoam cups, candy wrappers, craft sticks, glue, and rubber bands, **make a trophy for Tom Longboat**, (whose story is on pages 126–129). Give reasons for your trophy’s size, shape, and design.



## PETS

**1. Do some creative writing.** Write a short story about a small, shy, seemingly defenseless rabbit that becomes a hero.

**2. Design a menu for the Rabbit Cafe.** Put in dishes made from the foods that rabbits love. Careful! Don’t list anything that’s poisonous.



**3. Make your own board game** called “Race to the Warren.” On a large sheet of cardboard, draw a windy path, with questions about rabbits written on squares along the path. When players roll the dice, they move their tokens that number of squares and must answer the question that they land on. If they answer wrong, they must go back where they came from. The first player to reach the warren at the end of the path wins.

**4. Interview a person who works with an animal on the job.** You might talk to a rancher who rides the range on a horse, an emergency worker who finds accident victims using a rescue dog, or a police officer who uses a “sniffer dog.” Or talk to a person who trains companion dogs for the blind. Ask about the person’s experience in working with the animal. Write up a story for your school or community newspaper.

**5. Write, edit, and publish an issue of the Fleas’ Daily News.** Interview a veterinarian or animal groomer for the front-page story. Report the expert’s opinion about how pets get fleas and how best to get rid of fleas. Write and illustrate “A Day in the Life of a Flea” for your paper’s magazine section. Show flea fashions on the style pages. Don’t forget the flea comics, crossword puzzle, and horoscope.

**6.** A *limerick* is a five-line poem with a specific rhythm. Here's an example (you can find more at [www.brownielocks.com/kidlimericks.html](http://www.brownielocks.com/kidlimericks.html)):

*There once was an ape in a zoo  
Who looked through the bars and saw YOU.  
Do you think it's fair  
To give apes a scare?  
I think it's a mean thing to do.*

**Write a limerick** that uses as the first line:  
“There once was a flea on a dog . . .”

**7.** If you have a cat, you can do a science project on purring. **Observe your cat on a regular basis** for at least a month. In your project notebook, note when, where, and for how long your cat purrs. Can you draw any conclusions about what makes your cat purr or how purring benefits your pet?



## FOOD

**1.** Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806–61) started her famous Sonnet 43 with this line: “How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.” Use that first line to **introduce a list of the reasons why you love chocolate.**



**2.** The average American eats 12 pounds of chocolate a year. **How many cacao beans is that?**

(Answer: 4,800)

**3.** Chocolate bars have interesting names, such as Three Musketeers, Snickers, Milky Way, and Almond Joy. **Research these chocolate treats** to find out how they got their names. Then invent your own name for a chocolate bar and explain why you like it—both the candy and the name!

**4. Do some colors of M&Ms melt at lower temperatures than others?**

Here's how to find out. On a white paper (not Styrofoam) plate, place five tiny drops of glue in a circular pattern. Put a plain (not peanut) M&M chocolate on each drop, one of each of five different colors. Allow the glue to dry. Microwave on high for 20 seconds. Remove and look for cracks or other signs of melting. Record what you see. Continue microwaving 10 seconds at a time, observing after each heating interval. The number of cracks you observe tells you which candy melts first. *Do not touch the candies; they are hot! Do not eat the candies!*