



# OREGON ANIMAL SANCTUARY

**W**hat do you and a 15,000 pound elephant have in common? Everything—well, almost everything. Despite their long, long trunk, big floppy ears, and vast grey bodies, elephants are actually a lot like people.

Like you and me, elephants feel love, pain, joy, sadness, recognize themselves in a mirror, and have long memories. They like to play a lot and even can imitate the sounds of trains and trucks. Elephants also love their families and spend lots of time together eating leaves and grass, splashing in the river, and sleeping. If one of their family gets sick, they stay close by and nurse them to health. When a friend dies, the elephant community gathers around the grave to grieve.



Elephants are not the only animals who are like people. So are horses, chickens, llamas, pigs, cats, dogs, cows, and many others in the animal kingdom. Even though we may look different on the outside, we are all "kin under the skin." So don't be fooled by appearances.

That is what scientists are saying these days. Discoveries about elephants who grieve, chimpanzees who are better in math than us, and fish that feel pain, scientists have started a brand new field-- "trans-species psychology"—how animals and people think alike. And that is

what the Oregon Animal Sanctuary at Double Oak Farm is all about. Bringing people and animals together.

The Sanctuary is a place where people and animals heal each others' hearts and minds. Located in the beautiful Applegate Valley, the Sanctuary is a home for horses, llamas, goats, cows, rabbits, chickens, and many other animals. These animals have been abandoned by their human families, lost, or rescued from people who have hurt them. So, when an animal arrives at the Sanctuary, they are loved, fed, and cared for. Here, they can be themselves.

Have you ever felt like you're looking in a mirror when you look in the eyes of an animal? Perhaps it's true. In the book, *The Little Prince*, the Fox said something very wise: "Here is my secret. It's quite simple. One sees clearly only with the heart. Anything essential is invisible to the eyes."

*Dr. Gay Bradshaw is the Director of Research for the Oregon Animal Sanctuary. For more information, please visit the Sanctuary's Web site at [www.OregonAnimalSanctuary.org](http://www.OregonAnimalSanctuary.org) or call (541) 482-9300.*

