Celebrating Animals

I live about 10 minutes from Brisbane Botanic Gardens at the foot of Mount Coot-tha. It’s in a cool, hilly area with views across the city and river. I love to go there and sit on the open-deck café, watching the birds fly around and the opossums in the trees. We have lots of colorful birds in Queensland, like rainbow lorikeets, pink and grey galahs, budgies, and bush turkeys.

On a visit to the gardens with my mum last September, I noticed someone peering closely at a long-stemmed pond flower about the size of a bread plate. On a closer look, I saw this graceful tree frog no bigger than my pinky fingernail. The tiny frog sat there calmly as I gently pulled the flower open a small amount without damaging it and poised my camera for the shot. I took five different shots—most of them blurry—and then I couldn’t believe it when I saw this one. “Just beautiful” is the only way I can describe this photo.

— Diana Tomkins, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Do you have an inspiring photo of a favorite pet or wild animal? Send it to us for possible publication in All Animals, along with an explanation of 150 words or fewer about why it’s meaningful to you. Photos should be at least 300 dpi at a size of 5-by-7” and at least 2 MB.

To upload your photo and information, visit humanesociety.org/yourbestshot. Send hard copy submissions to All Animals—Your Best Shot, The HSUS, 2100 L St., N.W., Washington, DC 20037. (Hard copies cannot be returned.)