



## THINGS YOUNG PEOPLE CAN DO TO HELP ANIMALS

### AT HOME

If you have a pet, be a responsible pet owner:

- Give your pet proper food, water and exercise every day
- Help keep them healthy with proper grooming and clean up after them
- Take them to the veterinarian each year for an exam and have them spayed or neutered to help with overpopulation and keep them healthy
- Train your dog using positive reinforcement (rewarding good behavior)
- Make sure all cats and dogs have a current I.D. tag and/or a microchip
- Provide a fun and safe environment indoors for your cat(s). They will live a much longer and healthier life.

If you are thinking of getting a pet:

- Do some research and make sure you pick the right pet for your family and lifestyle
- Make sure you have the time, patience and money required to properly care for your pet
- Commit to keeping and caring for your pet for its entire life
- Save a life and adopt a pet from an animal shelter or rescue organization

If you or someone you know is having behavior problems with their pet, don't give up, call the Placer SPCA Behavior Help Line at 916-782-7722 ext. 258 for free assistance.

Volunteer – every animal welfare organization relies heavily on volunteers. Find out what the age and training requirements are and get involved!

Be alert for signs for animal cruelty or neglect, i.e., extremely thin animals, flea or tick infested animals, hurt animals, animals left in a hot car or animals left without food, water or shelter. Report animal cruelty and neglect as well as injured or stray animals to the proper Animal Control Agency.

Always respect the environment. Littering is not only ugly to look at it can also cause harm to animals. Dispose of trash properly and always cut up six-pack rings.

Save water - for example, turn off the tap while you brush your teeth; don't let water run off your yard into the street, etc.

Don't disturb wild animals, their homes or their nests. Never try to keep a wild animal as a pet and discourage others from doing so as well.

Placer County's Companion Animal Welfare Experts – Where Your Donations Stay Local

916.782.7722 or 530.885.7387, Ext. 253

humaneedu@placerspca.org

150 Corporation Yard Road

Roseville, CA 95678

Fax: 916.782.8655

[www.placerspca.org](http://www.placerspca.org)

## **AT SCHOOL**

Do a service project to help your local animal shelter. Call and find out what their current needs are or simply collect newspapers, towels or blankets to donate. These are items that are always in high demand.

Animal welfare organizations really need money so they can pay for medical care and buy supplies. Bake sales, garage sales, car washes, penny drives and collecting items for recycling are all great ways to raise money for your local shelter.

Suggest a class project that benefits your local animal shelter or wildlife in your community. You can collect things your local animal shelter needs, do a fundraiser or clean up a nearby habitat.

Don't use animals in your science projects. Find ways to learn about animals that do not involve using real animals – the internet can be a great resource for this.

Arrange for a speaker who is an animal specialist to visit your class or school to talk the work they do and how everyone can make the world a better place for animals.

Do a research paper or give a talk about animals that are used for profit. Look at things like the circus, rodeos, petting zoos, etc. Are the animals that are used for this type of entertainment well cared for, what are their living conditions and what methods are used to train these animals?

Do a research paper or give a talk about puppy mills. What are puppy mills, why do they exist and why are people permitted to keep dogs in such horrible conditions? Challenge students to identify what they can do to help the dogs in puppy mills.

Challenge the students in your class to come up with ways to help the environment by saving water, saving trees and recycling. Perhaps have a contest to see who can come up with the most suggestions.

Start a recycling program at your school and donate the proceeds to your local animal shelter.

Do a research paper or give a talk about the impact the items we use every day has on our environment and the animals with whom we share the world. For example, where do plastic bags and Styrofoam go when we throw them away? Are there alternatives to using these products? What about paper - is there an unlimited supply? Should we conserve and how can we save the forests, the oceans, the wetlands, etc.?

Challenge the students in your class or school to come with ways that they can help wildlife and/or the environment.

Challenge the students in your class or school to come up with ways to end the homeless animal problem in this country. There are approximately 10 million cats and dogs in shelters in the U.S., and only half of them will be lucky enough to find a new home. What can be done about this problem?

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO GET  
INVOLVED AND HELP THE ANIMALS!**