



Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA

Caring for Critters

A RESOURCE FOR FOR KIDS WHO LOVE ANIMALS



650-340-7022 • www.PHS-SPCA.org

Tom and Annette Lantos Center for Compassion 1450 Rollins Road, Burlingame, CA 94010
Coyote Point Shelter 12 Airport Boulevard, San Mateo, CA 94401

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER

Fundraising ideas...

Bake some sweets and sell them at a park. Use the money to buy items from your local animal shelters wish list and drop them off.

Create some beautiful art of adoptable shelter animals and sell them downtown. Then donate the money to the animal shelter.

Make and hang up signs around the neighborhood for a car wash. Then with the money raised go the pet store and purchase some toys and treats for the shelter animals.

Do a donation drive at school to gather items like blankets and toys for the shelter.



Do you have enough toys and clothes? For your next birthday request a donation to PHS/SPCA in your name instead of getting a gift.

If your family can't adopt a pet ask them if you can foster one! This gives shelter animals an opportunity to leave the stressful shelter environment and learn basic manners while waiting to be adopted.

Attend the Shelter Tales program at PHS/SPCA. You can read to cats and dogs at the shelter to help them get used to kids and soothe any anxiety they might have.

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HELPING FARM ANIMALS

Did you realize that over 10 billion farm animals in the United States are raised for food every year? Most of them are raised in factory farms. A factory farm is a large-scale farm operation that produces animals for human consumption or materials in cramped, filthy, and inhumane conditions.



Animals that produce dairy products like ice cream, milk, cheese, yogurt etc. include goats, cows and sheep. Females only produce milk when they have babies, so farmers purposely impregnate animals so they will make milk. Then farmers separate the babies from the mom and take her milk to sell. The babies are fed a milk formula and cannot see their mom again. Try dairy free options next time you go grocery shopping!

What can you do?

- Eat less meat. Period.
- Learn about factory farms and where your meat, dairy, and eggs come from.
- Search for the "Certified Humane" label on food products.
- Read labels and ingredient lists to know where your food/materials are coming from.
- Only buy cruelty free products (look for the bunny).
- Go shopping at your local farmer's market to support small-scale farms.
- Substitute synthetic materials for leather, wool, and down.
- Get to know rescued animals at a farm sanctuary. LEARN and TEACH your friends and family about how special these animals are!

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HOW CAN YOU HELP EXOTIC ANIMALS?

An exotic animal is simply another country's wildlife. Common exotic pets include iguanas, snakes, turtles, tortoises, parrots, chinchillas, frogs, and fish. Exotic animals would probably prefer to stay in their natural habitat, which may be a rainforest, coral reef, the wetlands, or a desert, rather than being stuck in a cage or tank for life!



- Think once, twice, three times before bringing an exotic pet into your home! These animals have very special needs and can get sick or even die if not cared for properly.

- Don't support the market for exotic pets by buying one. Learn about the suffering involved in the trade of wild animals.

- If you do decide to care for an exotic pet, adopt one from a shelter or rescue rather than buy from a pet store.



There are already millions of homeless animals at shelters

across the country. Pet stores that sell animals ADD to that problem.

- Research about what the animal's life is like in the wild. Can you create similar living conditions for the animal in captivity? What does it eat, and how? Does it live in social groups? What sort of climate does the animal thrive in? Where does it hide? How far does it travel, and how much space can you provide? What is the animal's lifespan?

Helping Wildlife



Unless I am visibly injured, crying, or my ears are curled back, I am fine and just waiting for my mom to return.



I might be hopping around on the ground but I am just a fledgling learning to fly. My parents are probably close by.



Our mom is near by and checks on us regularly. Keep your pets and lawn mower away. We will leave the nest in 3-4 weeks.

Unless an animal is visibly injured (bloody, has broken bones, is trapped, has a foreign object in the body, or infested with ticks/flyes) call your local wildlife rehabber for advice before interfering with wildlife! If you are in the San Mateo County the number to call is listed below.

What can you do to help wild animals?

- Pick up litter and dispose of it safely; even loose balloons can be lethal.
 - Plant native flowers and trees in your yard.
 - Reduce, re-use, recycle! Put bottles, cans, and paper in recycling bins; try to pack your lunch in reusable containers; rinse out and crush plastic yogurt cups; cut through the rings of 6-pack holders to avoid animals from getting stuck in them if they get into the trash.
 - Find humane ways to keep pests away. Do not use sticky traps, snares, foothold traps, or anything else that can cause an animal pain. Never leave out poison for animals to ingest.
 - If you put up birdfeeders, sanitize them weekly to prevent spreading disease among wild birds. Sweep up extra seeds at the end of the day to keep unwanted pests away. If you use hummingbird feeders, change the nectar every 2 days to avoid fermentation which can lead to death.
 - Keep your cats indoors to prevent them from preying on wildlife.
 - Read, watch movies, search the internet to learn more about wild species
 - Leave healthy wild animals alone!
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TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ANIMALS, THEIR CARE, AND HOW TO HELP, CHECK OUT THESE WONDERFUL WEBSITES:

phs-sPCA.org - Your friendly local Humane Society

kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals - Fun facts about wild animals

sfbaywildlife.info - Wildlife watching in our area

animalplace.org - News about rescued farm animals

loveyourdog.com - A kid's guide to dog care

catfriendly.com - All about cats and caring for them

rabbit.org - All about caring for bunnies

rattieratz.com - Resources for pet rats

mickaboo.org - Companion bird rescue and care

crabstreetjournal.org - Hermit crab newbies guide and essentials

kindnews.org - Humane magazines for K-6 classrooms



You can also participate in animal shelter youth programs through our Education Department. Learn more at phs-sPCA.org/education

Questions? Call the Humane Education Department at 650-340-7022 ext. 369

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