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I'm only eleven years old, yet for as long as I can remember animals have been very important to my family and me. I'm a responsible and loving pet owner of two cats and one dog. I have always loved animals. Even when I was a little girl, I always chose stuffed animals over other toys. Dolls were of no interest to me – I much preferred a stuffed elephant or dolphin. My interest of animals over the years has grown as I have. I have had several pets and with each one I have learned more and more about pet responsibility. The idea that I am responsible for something else's life is awesome to me. It makes me realize how important one person can be.....or animal. I have been thinking of ways to make life better for the animals in my community and have come up with some things that I think would truly make a difference to our local animals. I hope you agree!!!!

1. Remind my friends, as well as adults, that everyone can make a difference in the life of an animal.
2. Ask the city to make more places where animals can go to mingle and have fun----- like more dog parks and animal community centers where cats and other animals can be with other animals for fun.
3. Start a young animal helpers community club----to teach kids what to do if they find a lost or hurt animal.
4. Ask your classmates to donate any old blankets, towels or pillows and any animal food that their pets do not like to be taken to the animal shelter. A warm blanket would make a poor lost animal feel less alone.
5. Volunteer at a local shelter and ask if you can just hang out with the cats or dogs so they can have some play time----they need to know there is someone they can again have fun with.
6. Gather up neighbors and ask them to make better fences for their pets so that their pets will not be able to get out, lost, or hurt.
7. Start a dog walking club like my little sister has done, so the dogs with owners that have busy occupations will have someone to play with instead of laying on the floor doing nothing all day.

These are all very well thought out ideas to me. One day I hope I can do all these things, and help the city communities' animals.