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Short Elementary

Fifth Grade

Mrs. Fouts

## **What are some ways that can make life better for animals in your community?**

There are many ways to help animals in the community. One way to help is by adopting an animal for a pet. It's easy to adopt animals and it doesn't cost a lot of money. You need to go to your local animal shelter. You can look at all the animals and decide which one is right for you. Next, you fill out an application. Once your application is approved, you pay twenty to fifty dollars for your animal and then you can take it home.

You can volunteer at your local animal shelter or humane society. You can help these organizations by donating your time. Your time can be spent walking dogs, giving animals food and water, cleaning animal kennels, and giving animals attention. If you can't donate time you can donate supplies for shelters. They always need food, litter, collars, leashes, newspapers, shampoo, and old blankets, rugs, and pillows to help keep the animals warm and comfortable.

Shelters also accept money. The money is used to care for animals and operate shelters. It is important to keep animals healthy. You help your community by making sure our animals have their shots and are spayed and neutered. When animals are spayed or neutered this helps control the pet population and keep unwanted animals from going to the shelters. Animals should go to the veterinarian when they are sick or injured.

If you find a stray animal in your community and can't keep it, you can take it to your local humane society if they have "open admissions." If a shelter has "open admissions" this means they will take injured and sick animals because they have room. If you don't feel comfortable taking an animal to a shelter, you can call animal control and they will pick up the animal and take it to a shelter. This will stop animals from getting hurt. It doesn't cost any money to do this and it will help the community.

Many pet owners are having a hard time caring for their pets. Their pets are getting left behind because pet owners are losing their jobs and homes. A lot of these people don't have money to care for their pets any longer. Some pet owners no longer have homes. If you or someone you know are having these types of problems you can call your humane society first and see if they can help. Sometimes churches will get involved and help find a home for an animal. You can also advertise on the Internet, "Free animal to a good home."

I hope that these ideas will help you take care of animals in your community. Please remember there are lots of ways to help animals in your community. Your time is free and even a dog leash will help. These are my ideas for helping animals in my community. What are yours?