

How **YOU CAN HELP** Animals . . .



How can I help animals?!

The great thing is that there are so many ways to get involved in helping ALL animals—the wild-life in your backyard, endangered species all over the world, and the four-legged members of your own family.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Keep a list of people who can help if you see or know about someone harming an animal. That list might include a humane law enforcement officer, a teacher, your parents or your veterinarian.

- This one's especially for you, **future vets**: Read as much as you can about your pet. Make a list of the things that she needs to be healthy, and check it with your veterinarian.

- Cut up your plastic six-pack soda rings before you throw them away. If a bird or small animal

gets entangled in one, she may not be able to eat or move.

- Don't let balloons go, especially if you live near the ocean. The critters who live in the water might think they're food and eat them—which could make them very sick.

- Take time to smell the flowers, but don't pull them—or any other plants—out of the ground. You could be pulling out an animal family's dinner or uprooting a home!

- Find out if your local shelter accepts volunteers your age. You can also organize a drive for towels and blankets—shelter animals love to cuddle in them! Or why not have a bake sale, and donate what you earn to your local shelter or favorite animal organization?

- If you've got a dog or cat at home, help make sure he's happy and healthy by brushing him and playing his favorite game every day. (This one's fun for you, too!)

- Write a letter to Congress! It's important that the people who make laws know how you feel about how animals should be treated.

- A book sale is a great way to raise funds for your local shelter. You can collect and sell books (CDs, DVDs, magazines and books on tape count, too!) and give the money to your local shelter, or use the money to fund an animal book section for your school or local library.