

5th Grade, Jonathan Coria Williams Elementary

We all know animals are part of our community, but the problem is we don't take care of them. We must respect them with love and care because without them, we wouldn't have animals like birds or squirrels living in our community.

Trash is bad for animals like squirrels who like to find their food on the ground. Acorns and berries get hidden by trash and sometimes contaminated by germs and diseases which can make them sick or even kill them if they eat it. If you see trash on the ground, pick it up so that squirrels lives can be easier for them when it comes to food.

Birds enjoy looking for yummy and juicy worms but sometimes it's hard for them to find some. Plus, on storms and windy days, their nest or branch might fall off and now they don't have a home to live in. Build a bird house to provide shelter for the birds and put it on a sturdy branch so that it doesn't get blown away or fall off. Then you can make a bird feeder and fill it with lots of nuts and berries. Place it near the bird house but on a viewable branch so that birds can see it. Making a birdhouse will provide them warmth for cold days and bird feeders will help provide food for them also. Birds could be really happy with you and making your lives easier!

Stray dogs and cats roam the streets looking for their owners to help them get back home. If you find a stray, take care of it for a couple of days. Keep them warm and cozy instead of leaving them out in the heat or cold. Give them food and water to eat because they might not have eaten for days! Ask neighbors if they know the owner of that dog or cat. If they have a collar, see if you can find their address and return them to their owner. Give them baths to keep them nice and clean. If you don't find their owner in a couple of days, take them to a lost and found or a pound so that other people can see if that is a pet they've lost. Bringing strays back to their owners or shelter will make life better for them!

Litter and trash in ponds and lakes is bad for aquatic animals because the trash covers the surface of the water and fish need light to see and they also need to breathe oxygen. Without any of that, they may just end up dying. It is important to take out most of the trash in ponds and lakes because you can save fishes lives by cleaning up its home.

It is important to help the animals in our community because without them, we wouldn't hear the birds chirping or see the dogs playing so take care of the animals to keep them nice and happy. If you help them, you may just be making their lives a lot better.