

 **Report strays to local animal control agencies.** Insist that they be rescued humanely. In the meantime, feed the homeless to prevent starvation.

 **Learn about your local animal shelters.** Volunteer to help in fundraising and finding good homes for cats, dogs, and other abandoned pets. If shelters are forced to kill animals, make sure that it is done in a humane manner. Oppose turning over animals to research laboratories.

 **Promote kindness to animals.** Spread the word to everyone that you love animals and believe in humane principles.

 **Support environmental groups fighting to control water, air, and land pollution.** Wastes and poisons harm us and the animals. Help these groups preserve key habitats for wild creatures.



 **Provide the care of animals beyond your lifetime** by specifying in your will what is to go toward the humane care of animals both in your home and outside.

 **If you own a cat, keep him or her indoors.** Traffic, traps, poisoning, and cruel people are just some of the dangers that can kill or injure cats outdoors. Disease and parasites are also much easier to avoid when a cat stays indoors. Cats who are not spayed or neutered and are allowed to roam will mate and create more cats that either will die agonizing deaths on the street or be killed because there are not enough homes for them.

 **Avoid buying any artical made with fur, including coats, hats and fur-trimmed gloves.** The methods used to obtain an animal's fur are particularly cruel, with the most popular being the steel jaw leghold trap.

Thank you for caring!



Fostering a sentiment of kindness to animals

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Presented by The National Humane Education Society



Responsible Caring Takes Many Forms...

Here are the basic, action steps you can take to promote kindness to animals...

...They are things everyone can do for all creatures.



 **Support The National Humane Education Society and local humane societies working hard to prevent cruelty to animals.** These groups rescue strays, prevent animals from falling into the hands of cruel experimenters, and find homes for abandoned and lost cats and dogs and other domestic animals.

 **Include pets in your home.** You help creatures live fully and at the same time benefit from their love. Teach children responsibility by assigning them part of the care of an animal. There are many other choices of pets besides cats and dogs, but only accept those you can successfully rear and manage in your household.

 **Visit a veterinarian regularly.** Rabies and distemper shots are important to the well-being of your creatures. Maintain checks to see if your animal has internal or external pests and parasites.

 **Have your pets spayed or neutered to prevent unwanted births.** Each year in the US, million of cats and dogs are euthanized because they are unwanted and unvalued.

 **Patronize companies that refrain from using animals in cruel tests to establish product safety.** Safe tests without animals can be used reliably. Look for the cruelty-free symbol on products.

 **Be alert to weather.** Summer's heat is just as dangerous as winter's cold for your pets. Locking them in cars without ventilation in summer results in great suffering and even death, as does leaving them in the cold in winter. Set out water during all seasons for birds and other wild animals.

 **Post your lands against hunting and trapping.** Insist that others have respect for animals and plants found on your land. Have trespassers prosecuted.

 **Express your opposition to hunting and trapping on public lands.** Wildlife refuges, parks and other lands managed by local, state, and federal officials are for the benefit of all the public and not for the killers of creatures for sport.

 **Eat a vegetarian diet.** No-meat diets are healthy, conserve resources, and do not contribute to the slaughter of animals for food.

 **Teach compassion for animals.** Insist that your schools include instruction on



preventing cruelty to animals. Humane education should begin in elementary grades and continue through college.

 **Support humane farming.** Cattle, pigs, chicken, geese, ducks, and other animals deserve your support. Find out whether ranchers and meat packing houses follow humane measures for rearing and slaughtering animals for food.

 **Support legislation that benefits animals.** Send letters to your political leaders in local, state, and federal law-making agencies so that they can learn about your belief in animal rights and humane treatment.

 **Share companion animals with the elderly.** Residents in nursing homes and hospitals enjoy the companionship of visiting animals. Animals help people feel better.

 **Help reduce roadway kills of animals.** Have roadways posted where animals are known to prefer them for crossing.