

Hayden Bellah

3rd Place – 4th Grade

Little Elementary

Mrs. McMurrugh

What Do They Need?

Animals need A LOT more than just food, water, and a home to survive. Those are all VERY important details in their life, but animals need things like exercise, booster shots and medical attention, love and grooming to live a long healthy life.

For example, pets need exercise because if they don't your pet(s) will get arthritis. Walking your dog at least once a day would be good exercise and quality time. Throwing a stick or a ball would help with exercise too. Exercise for cats would be playing with a ball of yarn, or a toy mouse. There are many ways to give your pet exercise, being creative in your activities will also make the exercise fun for your pet(s).

Taking your pet(s) to the vet is VERY important. Pets need to go to the vet not just when they are sick, but also to prevent them from getting sick. Giving your pets heartworm medicine will help keep them alive, healthy and to live longer. You also need to make sure that you are up to date on all the pet vaccines and your veterinarian can help you with that.

Grooming is also important because you have to make sure that your pet's hair is cut and that their paws are clipped. Having long nails might be painful for pets to walk with. When a pet's hair is long and knotted it could hurt their skin. Just imagine how you would feel without a bath, your hair brushed or washed. Pet's like people, like to feel clean and pretty. Keeping your pet groomed is key to a pet's happiness and an important need.

Have you ever heard the old saying, "A pet is a man's best friend?" Well, that is true because my pet is MY best friend. All these basic needs are important in an animal's life. Animals depend on us, to love them, care for them, and be their best friend.