

## Sample Response: 10 points

Helping our bird friends is an important job! People should know how to care for them and how they are different from other animals. One thing everyone should know before they take care of a bird is whether it is wild or a pet. Wild birds need different kinds of care than pet birds. There are special people called veterinarians and rehabilitators who know how to take care of birds.

First, to take care of a wild bird, ask what its situation is. If it is hurt, call a professional rehabilitator to help. Source 1 suggests putting the bird in a box with a towel in it while you wait for help. Make sure the box has holes for the bird to breathe. If the bird is not hurt, make sure it is in a safe place. After the bird is moved to a safe place like a tree branch, people and other animals need to stay away.

Taking care of pet birds takes many steps too. One thing pet bird owners need to do is to take the birds to a special veterinarian. They should take their pet birds once every year. A bird veterinarian, like Elizabeth Hall, looks at all the bird's parts. She listens to its heart and lungs. She also knows about the kinds of sicknesses birds get. In paragraph 16, she cared for a pigeon's sore feet. Another kind of doctor might not know how to treat birds.

Another thing people can do to care for pet birds is to feed them the right food. Elizabeth Hall says that some people give their birds birdseed. Even though it is called birdseed, it doesn't mean it is the best food. People should feed their birds special pellets or green vegetables like lettuce. Paragraph 11 says a good diet for birds also has fruit, cheese, and cooked meat.

Finally, birds are different than other animals in many ways. They can be a lot of different sizes. They can be as small as  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an ounce and as big as an 11 pound Turkey. They have amazing abilities. Paragraph 13 says birds have excellent vision and super strong hearing. Some birds like parrots and parakeets can talk, sometimes they have a vocabulary of 2000 words. This makes them special and people should take good care of them.

This is why taking care of birds should be left to the people who know what to do.

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Scientists study animals' paths. They do this in order to help endangered animals. Animals like sea turtles, bears, caribou, and porpoises are endangered. Scientists are tracking animals so they can learn where the animals go, how they get there, and how long they stay there. They get information from satellites that get signals from radio transmitters, that have been attached to certain animals. Then they will try to make animals' journeys as safe as possible.

Different animals have different ways of traveling from place to place. Whales follow the coastline or cracks in the ice. Birds follow rivers, valleys, coasts and mountain ranges. A wildebeest follows the scent of rain to feast on fresh grass after it rains. Bats use echolocation, where they send out bursts of high pitched sound and listen for the echoes to find food and home in the dark, since they are nocturnal. Honey bees use the sun as a compass, and owls follow the stars. All of these ways work, even if they are different. Scientists study animals' paths. They do this in order to help endangered animals. All animals have different paths that scientists study. Though all of them are effective.