## Volunteering with 8-12 year olds

| 8-12 year olds volunteers | We are very excited to allow 8-12 year olds to serve with an adult volunteer. We recognize the importance of teaching volunteerism at a young age and allowing this age group to give back to their community and animals in need.  

To ensure the safety of all involved, please consider our guidelines:

- The parent or legal guardian is the primary volunteer.
- We ask that no more than 2 children accompany an adult.
- The adult volunteer must remain with the junior volunteers at all times while at the shelter. |
| Orientation | Children 8-12 years old are welcome to attend orientation. Parents with children will serve as Animal TLC Volunteers and will be required to stay the entire 2 hours. You know your child best; please only have them attend if they are able to participate in the entire orientation & training. |
| 13-17 year olds | 13-17 year olds volunteer independently through our teen volunteer program, please see the Teen Volunteer page for more information |
| Animal TLC Program | Parents with children will serve as Animal TLC Volunteers. It is the first step to working with the animals! The Animal TLC program supports the adoptable animals by helping with laundry, dishes, sorting donations, providing enrichment, & other shelter tasks. |
| Dog TLC | After completing 6 hours of Animal TLC service, the adult volunteer will qualify to sign up for a training in an animal handling position.  

Below are some of the rules & protocols for walking dogs with your 8-12 year old.

- The adult is expected to choose a dog appropriate for interaction with children. This will be covered in depth at training. Please note that not all dogs on the adoption floor will be available to walk with your child.
- The adult volunteer is responsible for safely walking the dog from its kennel to the outdoors. The adult is the one who leashes up the dog, and the child must remain outside the kennel at this point.
- When the dog is on leash, the adult volunteer must always be the handler. A junior volunteer may attach a second leash to the dog. |
### Feline Friends

Below are some of the rules & protocols for visiting cats with your 8-12 year old.

- The adult volunteer is responsible for safely carrying the cat from its kennel to the visitation room and back. Junior volunteers may interact freely with a cat when in a visitation room.
- Remind the junior volunteer that the cat may be unaccustomed to children and volunteers are asked to refrain from handling a cat that moves away or hisses.

### Small Paws

Below are some of the rules & protocols for visiting small mammals with your 8-12 year old.

- The adult volunteer is responsible for safely carrying the animals from their kennel. Junior volunteers may interact freely with animals once out of the kennel.
- Remind the junior volunteer that the animals may be unaccustomed to handling and must use calm, slow movements when handling.

### For more information

Additional questions?
Please email [volunteers@longmonthumane.org](mailto:volunteers@longmonthumane.org)
Or call 303-772-1232 x278