

Talking to young people about respecting wildlife

Wildlife are not targets.

They are living animals that deserve to be treated with respect and compassion.



RSPCA WA has recently received reports of waterbirds being deliberately hooked or injured at several metropolitan lakes and waterways.

While these incidents involve a very small number of young people, they are a timely reminder of the importance of talking to children and teenagers about treating animals with kindness and respect.

Swans, ducks and other wildlife are sentient animals. They experience pain, fear and distress just like the pets we share our homes with.

If your child enjoys fishing, please encourage them to:

- treat wildlife with care and respect.
- never deliberately target birds or other animals.
- dispose of fishing hooks and line responsibly.
- report injured wildlife to an adult.



A simple conversation at home can make a real difference.

People who intentionally cause unnecessary harm to an animal may face investigation, prosecution and significant penalties, including a maximum fine of \$50,000 and up to five years' imprisonment.

If you witness deliberate cruelty to animals, report it on 1300 278 358