Connections Amongst Living Things

We have talked about showing respect to all living things. We need to take care of plants, and we need to be kind to animals. But why? Why is it important to be respectful to living things?

Look at the picture below. Think about all the ways that the living things help each other.

How does the fish help the bear?

The fish is food to the bear - it gives it energy.

How does the tree help the squirrel?

The tree is home to the squirrel and it makes nuts (food).

How do the plants help the animals?

The plants clean the air for the animals and give them oxygen.

How does the bunny help the person?

The bunny is cute, and the person enjoys looking at it, which makes him happy.
Use the word box, at the bottom of the page, to complete the paragraph.

All living things ______ need ______ one another. The plants produce oxygen, which animals need to ______ breathe ______. The ______ animals ______ produce carbon dioxide, which the plants need to breathe.

Plants are also ______ food ______ to many animals. The plants get ______ energy ______ from the ______ sun ______, and the animals that eat the plants ______ get ______ that energy. Some animals are food to ______ other ______ animals. This is necessary for ______ life ______ to exist.

Plants can also provide ______ shelter ______ to animals. This helps animals ______ protect ______ themselves from bad ______ weather ______, or from other ______ dangerous ______ animals. If we do not take ______ care ______ of the living things in our environment, life would be very ______ different ______.

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