Connecting With Cats

Coloring and Fun Book

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Coloring and Fun Book
The History of Cats

Between 5,000 and 10,000 years ago the Egyptian people discovered that having wild cats around their homes and grain storage had many benefits. They kept the number of mice, rats and even snakes down, which made life much easier and saved tons of grain. As years passed, the cats and kittens became more and more friendly.

COOL CAT FACTS:

- Cats have more bones than humans, 230 to be exact.
- A cat has 37 muscles in each ear.
# Make Your Cat a Friend for Life!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIFE STAGE</th>
<th>Cat Years</th>
<th>Human Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kitten</td>
<td>birth to 6 months</td>
<td>0-1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>7 months to 2 years</td>
<td>12 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime</td>
<td>3 years to 6 years</td>
<td>28 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>Cat Years</th>
<th>Human Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-1 month</td>
<td>0-1 year</td>
<td>12 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 months</td>
<td>2-4 years</td>
<td>15 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 months</td>
<td>6-8 years</td>
<td>21 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 months</td>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>24 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cool Cat Facts:**

- The oldest cat on record lived to be 34 years old!
- Kittens begin to dream as early as 1 week old.
### Cat Years vs Human Years Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat Years</th>
<th>Human Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>48</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>52</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>56</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat Years</th>
<th>Human Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>64</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>68</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>72</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cat Years</th>
<th>Human Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>76</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>84</td>
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<td>92</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Quiz

1. If you adopt a kitten that is 2 months old, how old is it in human years? _________
2. If your cat is 5 years old, what life stage is it in? (circle one)
   - a. Kitten
   - b. Prime
   - c. Geriatric
3. If you adopt a cat that is 64 years old in human years, how old is it in cat years? _________
4. Geriatric cats are at least how old? (circle one)
   - a. 7 months
   - b. 11 years
   - c. 15 years
5. How old are you? _________ How old are you in cat years? _________
Color Me!

Draw items Saboo will need to be happy and healthy!

Suggestions: Food, water, toys, bed, vet care, kitty litter, collar, ID tag, cat carrier

COOL CAT FACTS:

- A cat can jump seven times as high as it is tall.
- Cats have a special ability to land on their feet when they fall — but they can still get hurt.
Cats and Vets

- It is important to take your cat to the vet at least once each year.
- Be sure to secure her in a cat carrier to keep her safe.
- Bring any records you may have if this is a first visit.

Unscramble the words below to learn about a vet visit.

- einvcca ____________________
- mxae ____________________
- hgiewt ____________________
- archt ____________________
- mtpeattrueer ________________
- bliaharl ________________
- treavernaini ________________
- demcieni ________________

Answers: vaccine, exam, weight, chart, temperature, hairball, veterinarian, medicine.
Saboo’s Word Search

Find the words in Saboo’s cat bed below that relate to cat responsibility.

spay
adoption
exercise
neuter
love
food
examination
identification
responsibility
rescue
indoors
water
shelter
healthy
fun
pets
play
vet

H U M A N E R C L O U S E A U
U P T O N Y E X E R E S C M T
J A N E W I S R B W X P A E E
C P H O M E P A E O A W T R R
L B I N D O O R S R M T W O E
E O Z C A T N I P D I V E J S
X O V H U Q S J F U N E L R A
E I D E N T I F I C A T I O N
R E X T R A B K I T T Y T H E
C S H E L F I G M F I Z U E U
I P E T S P L A Y K O O N A T
S A D O P T I O N A N O A L E
E Y F U N R T N I C E B D T R
R E S C U E Y M A R L I N H G
G E O R G E S H E L T E R Y O

COOL CAT FACTS:

- Cats don’t really have nine lives – they only have one (just like you and me).
- At night, cats can see six times better than humans!
The Story of Saboo

Cut out the scenes from Saboo’s story, and put them in the proper order. Flip each scene over to learn a fun cat fact!

Poor Saboo...

All of her siblings have been adopted, but not her.

Now I know what it means to be adopted.

Welcome home, Saboo.
The Story of Saboo

Today, almost 94 million cats live in our homes. That beats out dog numbers by 16 million!

Even though outdoors might seem like fun, cats live longer, healthier lives indoors.
The Story of Saboo

Cut out the scenes from Saboo’s story, and put them in the proper order. Flip each scene over to learn a fun cat fact!

This will be home for you and your siblings now, Saboo. For a little while anyway ...

What does adoptable mean?
The Story of Saboo

60 million cats have no homes in America.

Adopt from a shelter or rescue group to reduce the number of homeless cats.
The Story of Saboo

Cut out the scenes from Saboo’s story, and put them in the proper order. Flip each scene over to learn a fun cat fact!

Time for you kittens to go to the animal shelter and get adopted.

Even you, Saboo ...

Saboo will make a great friend for your other cat at home. Just make sure they get along!

What do you think, Saboo?
The Story of Saboo

Cats often like living with other cats. Half of homes with cats have more than one.

A group of kittens is called a “kindle.”
Help Saboo Get Home!

Help! Saboo is lost! Someone accidentally left the door open while carrying in the groceries and Saboo got out. Can you help her safely find her way back home?

An ID tag is a lost cat’s ticket home!

Fill out an ID tag for your pet or favorite stuffed toy. And remember, microchipping is a permanent form of identification. To learn more, visit www.homeagain.com.
Activities for Home
Remember, your cat will need lots of love!

Suggested family activities:

1. Design and build a hide box.

Supplies you will need:
- Box(es) big enough for your cat(s) to fit inside comfortably
- Markers, crayons, nontoxic paint, pencils
- Scissors, glue stick, duct tape, newspaper
- Optional: Pictures, stencils, buttons, feathers, dowels, small cat toys, soft or furry cloth
* Make sure all buttons, beads, etc. are too large for your kitty to swallow

Instructions:
1. Cut an opening in one side of the box, large enough for your cat to fit through.
2. Use duct tape to reinforce the inside seams.
3. Cover a workspace with newspaper.
4. Now be creative (use your imagination):
   ◦ Make a design on the box using pencils.
   ◦ Color in the design with paint or markers.
   ◦ Add pictures, stickers, words.
5. Hang some toys from the dowels (feathers, buttons, toys, cloth) to make the outside of the box fun. Use duct tape to secure them.
6. Glue a piece of soft cloth on top for a resting perch and/or cut a piece of furry cloth to make a bed inside.

Other options:
- Use the duct tape to link several boxes together with connecting openings for climbing and hiding fun.
- Make the box look like your house with windows and doors for peeking out.
- Use a large box with a smaller box inside as a shelf and additional hiding space; hang some toys from the inside for added excitement.
- Make a glamorous princess/prince palace with bright buttons, beads, painted macaroni, glitter, etc.
2

Make a fun cat toy.

Supplies you will need:
- Large wooden beads (too large for your cat to swallow)
- Craft feathers
- Nontoxic glue (ex: Elmer’s)

Instructions:
1. Squeeze drops of glue into one end of the hole through the bead.
2. Stick shafts of feathers into the hole, into the glue.
3. Let dry thoroughly.
4. Let it roll!

Play options:
- Use on its own as a rolling toy.
- Tie twine through the hole and hang one or more from a doorknob.
- Tie twine through the hole and dangle from a dowel.
- Roll the feather toys in catnip before offering to cats.

3

Create a decorative floor mat to put under food and water dishes.

Supplies you will need:
- 2 pieces of clear adhesive shelf liner cut to the same size, or 2 clear laminating sheets
  ◦ Note: The size should be larger than your cat’s dishes
- Scissors, markers and glue stick
- Large piece of construction paper (any color)
- Pictures of your cat(s), your other pet(s), other animals, items a cat needs, or cat toys
- Optional items: glitter, stickers, stencils

Instructions:
1. Cut the construction paper to fit within the dimensions of the clear adhesive laminate.
2. Decorate the paper any way you want. Suggestions include:
   ◦ Your cat’s name in large letters (glitter really makes it stand out)
   ◦ Photos of your cat, your cat with the family, or other pets
   ◦ Draw a frame around the outside edge or draw your cat, things your cat likes, etc.
   ◦ Cut out color pictures from magazines, use stickers, or add other colorful decorations

   * You will need to glue pictures down
3. Place 1 sheet of clear laminate, sticky side up, then place your paper on top of that.
4. Carefully place the second sheet of clear laminate on top of your paper, with the sticky side facing down.
5. Now press down on the mat to smooth out any lumps, starting from the middle and working your way to the outside edges.
6. Place the mat on the floor, then place your cat’s food and water dishes on top!
Did You Know?

- One pair of unaltered cats can have kittens at just 6 months old! Their kittens can have kittens in six months, and so on.
- That means 67 relatives in two years!
- 11,801 cats in five years and 2,072,514 in eight years!

This is a great reason to spay or neuter your cat.

It is also a great reason for your family to do something about it!

How your family can help:

- Take good care of your own cats.
- Raise money for a local animal shelter.
- Volunteer for an organization that helps cats.
- Organize a blanket, towel, bed and/or litter drive for a shelter.
- Help a neighbor or friend get their cat spayed, neutered or vaccinated.
- Join and/or support a humane organization.

COOL CAT FACTS:

- It’s an old myth that black cats are bad luck! Black cats are just like any other color cat.
- Cats have 24 whiskers, 12 on each side.
Responsibility – Where Does It Begin?

First, make appropriate choices by asking:

- Can I really handle this new responsibility?
- Does anyone in our family have allergies?
- Can we really afford a new pet?
- Do we have the time and space for a new pet?
- Do we have the landlord’s permission?
- Will our new cat be safe with our family and pets at home?

Next, find the right cat:

- Adopt your cat from an animal shelter or humane organization, humane society, SPCA, rescue league, cat rescue, etc.
- Do your homework. Most shelters and rescues will vaccinate and spay or neuter cats before adoption, which saves adopters money, or they offer information on low-cost programs.

Now, bring your new cat or kitten home:

- Plan ahead by learning what is needed and have it ready, including a collar and an ID tag.
- Make food and litter boxes easy to find.
- Provide safe spots to hide or rest, such as an open carrier, a box or even a paper bag.
- Allow time for the cat to adjust.
- Keep cats indoors and safe from harm.
- Make a veterinary appointment, and have your cat microchipped during your first visit for permanent identification.

Need more fun books?

Visit www.americanhumane.org/aacm to order more!