

APRIL 2024



# Little Paws Club magazine



**CATS**  
PROTECTION

# Hello Little Paws Club member!

On 11 April it's National Pet Day, so we're going to have a look at some different types of pet and what it takes to be a pet owner.

As it's the Little Paws Club we will be looking at cats as pets and how important it is to find the perfect match!

Love from

**Benji**



## Benji colouring challenge

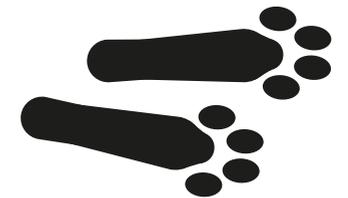
Colour in the things Benji needs to make him feel at home.



Cats Protection is a registered charity 203644 (England and Wales), SC037711 (Scotland) and is listed as a Section 167 institution by the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland | IG\_1234

# Match the pet to their footprint

Draw a line between each pet and their footprint



# Pet care

## The five welfare needs

There are lots of different sorts of pets; big, small, furry and feathery.



But whatever they look like, all pets have the same basic needs.

Can you give an animal everything in this checklist?  
If so, maybe you're ready for a pet!

- ✓ A safe, comfy home, which should have somewhere to run around, somewhere to hide and somewhere to rest
- ✓ Healthy food and fresh water to drink
- ✓ The space to behave in a **natural**, normal way
- ✓ Other animals to live with if they need friends (although remember that some pets prefer to be on their own)
- ✓ A healthy life, with vet trips when needed

Having a pet is really fun, and they are very nice to have around. But it's hard work and they need lots of care. So, make sure you're ready and you have everything they need before bringing any pet into your home.



### Word watch!

**Natural:** behaviour that is shared by all animals in a particular type that has not been learnt.

### Can you tell me?

Guinea pigs are a distant relative of pigs.

True or false?

Answer on the back page



# Little Paws Club pet gallery

## Meet the team's pets!

As it's National Pet Day this month we thought we'd get to know some of the pets belonging to the Little Paws Club team. Which pet would you most like to have?



### Gracie

Gracie is a three-year-old Brindle Mastiff, she loves nothing more than a cuddle on the sofa!

### Anka and Saye

Tabby cat, Anka, loves exploring outside. His best pal, Saye, stays true to his name (which means 'shadow') and follows us around wherever we go!



### Yogi

Yogi is a yellow Labrador. He loves going for walks and getting muddy.



### Oscar

Oscar is a 14-year-old corn snake. He loves hiding in toilet roll tubes and he eats dead mice.

### Mia

Mia is a three-year-old rescue dog and loves long walks and playing with her friends.



### Blair

Blair is a nine-year-old Irish sport horse. She enjoys eating carrots, rolling in muddy puddles and playing with her friends.

### Can you tell me?

Which pet has the best sense of smell?

- A. Cats
- B. Dogs
- C. Hamsters

Answer on the back page



# Ask the expert

Nicky Trevorrow, Behaviour Manager



## What makes cats a good pet?

Cats are good company. They like to play, they have a soothing purr, and they go outside to have adventures so don't need taking for walks!

## Can cats live with other pets?

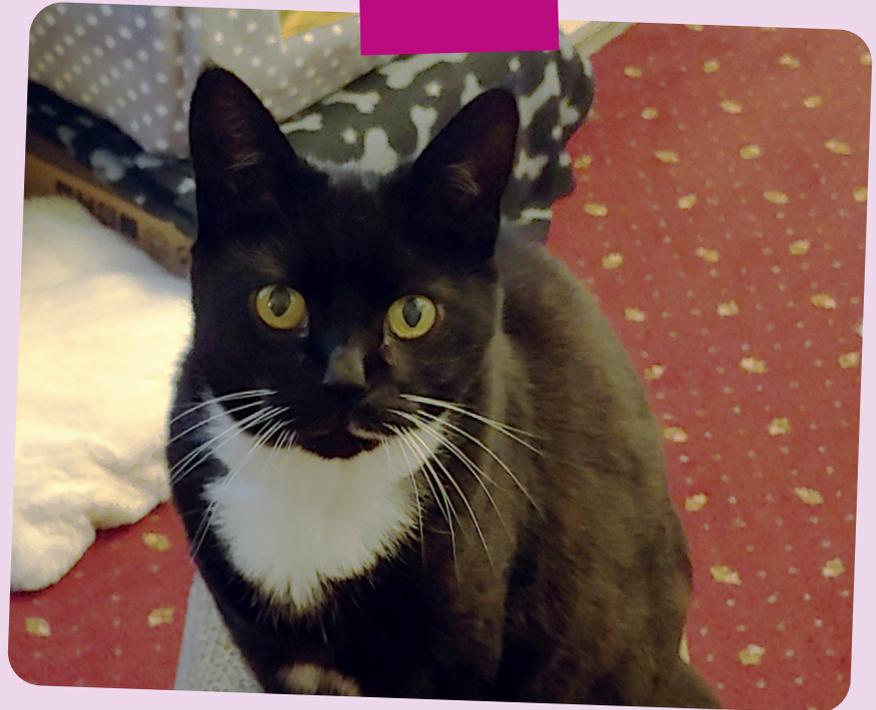
It depends on the cat. If they got used to other cats or pets as a kitten then they're more likely to be happy living with others as they get older.

## Can you train a cat like a dog?

Yes, you can. They can learn to sit, high five or do tricks. It's also good to train a cat to be happy in a cat carrier.

## What's the most important thing to think about before getting a pet?

You need to think if they are the right pet for you. Do you have the time, money and space to look after them?



## Success story

### Soxy

Soxy came to Cats Protection and was looked after by our Bridgend Adoption Centre before finding a lovely new home. Soxy is an 18-year-old tuxedo cat, although she acts much younger!

### Likes ♥

Soxy loves catnip, feather toys and her igloo bed.

### Dislikes ♡

Soxy doesn't like the cat that lives next door. She also doesn't like it when her dinner is late!

As a Little Paws Club member, you are helping cats like Soxy.

# The perfect match

## Genevieve and her pet cat Zebby

All cats are different so if you're thinking of getting one as a pet, it's important to make sure they're the right match. Different cats suit different owners, for example, Genevieve's cat Zebby alerts her to sounds because she's **deaf**.



When the phone rings or someone's at the door, Zebby taps Genevieve's face or **paces** about in front of her, so she knows to put on her hearing aid. She said: "Without my hearing aid, I can't hear anything, but now I have Zebby to help me."

If there's a sound in the night, Zebby taps Genevieve on the head to wake her and let her know something's up. That's not all Zebby does.

- He helps Genevieve in all sorts of ways:
- he collects the post from the doormat
  - he gets Genevieve's slippers for her

"Zebby is very special, I've never known a cat quite like him," said Genevieve. Zebby has become a perfect partner for Genevieve. What sort of cat would be your perfect match?

### Word watch!

**Deaf:** when you can't hear anything.

**Paces:** to walk up and down repeatedly.

# Tabby McTat's amazing cat facts

## Rat babies

Cats aren't the only animal whose babies are called kittens. Rat babies are also called kittens.



## You snooze you lose!

Unlike cats, guinea pigs don't need a lot of sleep. They stay awake for around 20 hours a day!



## Cat and mouse

One of the reasons it's so hard for cats to catch mice is because mice can make themselves really small and squeeze through gaps the size of the end of a pencil!



# Pet wordsearch

Find as many of the different pets as you can in the wordsearch below. The words could be going down or to the side.

c	a	t	o	c	a	g	y
b	t	w	x	h	k	u	f
r	a	b	b	i	t	i	v
a	e	s	q	c	m	n	u
t	x	r	n	k	a	e	r
o	m	i	c	e	q	a	n
d	y	b	u	n	l	p	g
g	e	r	b	i	l	i	t
s	h	w	x	d	o	g	m

chicken, rabbit, mice, rat, dog,  
gerbil, guinea pig, cat