

Cat Curriculum

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Curriculum Structure

The *Cat Kit Curriculum* is composed of the following lessons. Approximate lesson times are included.

Lesson	Title	Approximate Time
One	Cat Breeds	60 minutes
Two	Feeding and Management	60 minutes
Three	Cat Diseases and Parasites	60 minutes
Four	Feline Reproductive System	60 minutes
Five	Body Systems	60 minutes
Six	Selection and Judging	60 minutes
Seven	Careers in the Cat Industry	60 minutes
	Total	7 hours

Lesson Structure

Each lesson begins with a Lesson Overview, Lesson Objectives, and a Lesson at a Glance table that lists lesson activities, materials required, suggested preparation steps, and approximate class time.

Lesson Sections

The actual lesson follows the overview, which contains some of the sections described below.

FOCUS

Every lesson begins with a FOCUS activity intended to capture participants' attention. This may be in the form of a small or large class discussion, a game, a demonstration, or a review of previous lesson information. During this activity, participants are introduced to the topic of the lesson.

LEARN

The LEARN activity in each lesson varies in its presentation mode. It may be a slide presentation, group activity, or demonstration.

REVIEW

The majority of lessons end with a REVIEW activity intended to briefly review the lesson's key messages or main points.

Lesson One – Cat Breeds

Lesson Overview

Participants will learn about cat breeds, their characteristics, and their physical appearance by watching a slide presentation and using flashcards.

Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- List the number of registered breeds for two organizations
- List characteristics for each breed
- Describe the physical appearance of each breed

Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	• <i>What Is That Breed? Assessment</i> • <i>What Is That Breed? Assessment – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>What Is That Breed? Assessment</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes
LEARN	• <i>Cat Breeds</i> slide presentation • <i>Cat Breeds Worksheet</i> • <i>Cat Breeds Worksheet – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Cat Breeds Worksheet</i> (one per participant). 2. Prepare <i>Cat Breeds</i> slide presentation for viewing	40 minutes
REVIEW	• Cat Kit Breed ID Flashcards • <i>Cat Breeds Quiz</i> • <i>Cat Breeds Quiz – Answer Key</i>	1. Gather Cat Kit Breed ID Flashcards 2. Print/photocopy <i>Cat Breed Quiz</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes

Lesson One – Cat Breeds

FOCUS: Intro to Cat Breeds

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will be introduced to cat breeds by taking an assessment on their prior knowledge.

Materials:

- *What Is That Breed? Assessment*
- *What Is That Breed? Assessment – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Distribute the assessment and provide instruction on how to complete it.
2. Give participants five minutes to complete the assessment before having participants trade papers.
3. Go over the answers while participants grade their classmate's assessment and then collect the participant-graded assessments.

Name: _____ Class: _____

What Is That Breed? Assessment

Directions: Circle the correct answer for each statement.

1. The Burmese cat is the only spotted domestic breed that looks like a wild cat but is 100% domesticated. True or False
2. A Siberian cat is considered a small breed. True or False
3. The Norwegian Forest cat is a big and fluffy domesticated cat that adapts well to cold weather. True or False
4. There is no cat breed that has an aqua eye color. True or False
5. All cat breeds have three types of hair in their coat, which include guard, awn, and down hair. True or False
6. Due to a natural dominant gene mutation, Scottish folds lack cartilage in their ears that causes the ears to “fold over.” True or False
7. The Sphynx breed of domesticated cat is completely hairless. True or False
8. Persian cats have short coats, making them ideal for owners who do not have a lot of spare time for grooming their cat. True or False
9. There is no such thing as a Bengal cat. True or False
10. Depending on who you ask, there are 42-71 registered cat breeds in the world. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

What Is That Breed? Assessment – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will circle the correct answer for each statement.

1. The Burmese cat is the only spotted domestic breed that looks like a wild cat but is 100% domesticated. True or **False**
2. A Siberian cat is considered a small breed. True or **False**
3. The Norwegian Forest cat is a big and fluffy domesticated cat that adapts well to cold weather. **True** or False
4. There is no cat breed that has an aqua eye color. True or **False**
5. All cat breeds have three types of hair in their coat, which include guard, awn, and down hair. True or **False**
6. Due to a natural dominant gene mutation, Scottish folds lack cartilage in their ears that causes the ears to “fold over.” **True** or False
7. The Sphynx breed of domesticated cat is completely hairless. **True** or False
8. Persian cats have short coats, making them ideal for owners who do not have a lot of spare time for grooming their cat. True or **False**
9. There is no such thing as a Bengal cat. True or **False**
10. Depending on who you ask, there are 42-71 registered cat breeds in the world. **True** or False

Lesson One – Cat Breeds

LEARN: Cat Breeds

40 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn about cat breeds by watching a slide presentation while they fill out a worksheet.

Materials:

- *Cat Breeds* slide presentation
- *Cat Breeds Worksheet*
- *Cat Breeds Worksheet – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Set up the slide presentation and distribute the worksheet.
2. Provide directions on how to complete the worksheet and begin the slide presentation.
3. Once the presentation is finished, collect the worksheet.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Breeds Worksheet

Directions: Fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. _____ **Are There?**

- The answer is not as clear as you may think
- _____
- _____

2. _____

- _____ as the _____
_____ for several years
- _____ and is a _____
- _____
- _____ due to their _____
- One of the largest cat breeds at _____ - _____.
- _____ are _____
- _____, which means the _____
- Point areas include the _____, _____, _____, and _____
- _____ is _____, _____ - _____, which can come in the _____, lilac, _____, blue, _____, and chocolate

3. _____

- _____ that can be black, _____, golden, _____, smoke, _____, or Himalayan
- _____ can be _____, pointed, _____, or tortoiseshell
- _____ are _____, green, or _____
- _____ lbs.
- _____ up to _____
- _____ and _____
- _____ a _____
- _____ can make them _____ for _____

4. _____
- _____ “ _____ ”
 - _____ can come in _____
 - _____ and _____
 - _____ but can be _____, gold, _____ - _____, copper, _____, or odd-eyed
 - _____ - _____ lbs.
 - _____ 12-15 _____
 - _____ but _____
 - Gets along _____ and _____, _____

5. _____
- _____ and _____ but with a _____
 - _____ are possible in this breed
 - _____ but can be copper, blue, green, blue-green, hazel, or odd-eyed (two different colors)
 - _____ - _____.
 - _____ 15-20 _____
 - _____
 - _____ and _____, kids, and _____
 - _____

6. _____
- _____ “ _____ ”
 - _____
 - _____, including _____, black, _____, red, _____, smoke, _____, golden, _____, tabby, _____, calico, and _____ - _____
 - _____ but may be blue, _____, copper, _____, _____ - _____, hazel or _____ - _____
 - _____ - _____.
 - _____ - _____
 - _____ and laidback but _____ or carried

7. _____
- _____ the “ _____ ”
 - _____ can come in _____

Cat Kit Curriculum

- _____ can be _____, tabby, _____, tortoiseshell, _____, and more
- _____ can be _____
- _____ - _____.
- _____ 9-15 _____
- _____
- Extremely playful and _____

8. _____
- _____ can be _____, red, _____, cinnamon, or _____ in color
 - _____ can be _____
 - _____ are either _____
 - _____ up to _____.
 - _____ up to _____
 - _____ to keep healthy
 - _____ and _____
 - _____

9. _____
- _____ that comes in _____
 - _____ is the _____
 - _____ can be copper, _____, gold, _____, or green
 - _____ - _____ lbs.
 - _____ - _____ years
 - _____
 - Gets _____
 - _____

10. _____
- _____ a "fold"
 - Weighs up to _____.
 - _____ that can be _____, gray, _____, red, cream, or _____
 - _____ can be tabby, _____, or calico
 - _____ can be _____, blue-green, or _____
 - _____ up to _____
 - _____ and _____, leading to controversy around _____
 - _____ to kids, _____, and _____

11. _____

- " _____ " that can come in _____
- Markings and eyes can be _____
- _____
- _____ - _____ years
- _____ and dogs
- _____ and loyal
- _____
- _____, cardiomyopathy, and _____
- _____

12. _____

- _____ include " _____ " _____
" _____ "
- _____ that can _____, black, _____, brown, or _____ (_____)
- _____ can be solid, _____, smoke, or _____
- _____ can be _____, blue, _____, yellow, or _____ - _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

13. _____

- _____ is _____ that can be seal, _____, blue, or _____
- _____
- _____
- _____ years
- _____.
- _____
- _____ with _____
- _____ that are cat-friendly
- _____ " _____ "
- _____ if left alone for long periods

14. _____

- _____ include _____, blue, _____, brown, _____, red, and _____ or smoke
- _____ is only _____, which is the _____

- _____ can be bi-color, _____, tabby, _____, or colorpoint
- _____ is _____, _____, _____
- _____
- _____ particular _____
- _____
- _____
- Demands attention
- _____

15. _____

- _____ " _____ " _____ "
- _____
- _____
- _____, which may or may not include white markings
- _____ are common _____
- _____ is the _____ pattern
- _____
- Coat needs to be _____
- _____ with _____

16. _____

- _____ varies from _____
- _____ with a _____
- _____ can be _____
- _____ - _____
- More likely to _____
- _____ and _____
- _____
- Noisy
- _____ with _____
- _____

17. _____

- _____ " _____ "
- _____, piercing blue eyes, and _____ - _____

Cat Kit Curriculum

- _____ can _____
- _____.
- _____, including humans and animals
- _____ an _____
- _____ well if _____
- _____
- _____

18. _____

- _____ and a _____ that _____ from _____
_____ to _____
- _____ can be a _____
- Can be _____ who are _____
- _____ and kind breed but _____ like _____ compared to
other breeds
- _____ and long-lived, which means their
_____ can be as long as _____

19. _____

- Bred _____ a _____ but is

- _____
- _____ can be _____, seal sepia tabby, _____
_____, seal lynx point, black silver tabby, _____
_____, seal silver mink tabby, or _____
- _____
- _____
- _____ to play in _____
- Very _____
- _____ with _____

20. _____

- Up to _____.
- _____ can be platinum, _____, blue, or

- _____ is _____, solid, or _____
- Lives up to _____
- _____ can be blue, _____, _____
- _____, sociable, _____, and intelligent
- _____ to be _____

- _____ with _____

21. _____

- _____ in _____
- _____
- Social, _____, and _____
- _____.
- _____.
- _____ be _____
- _____ include _____ (_____), champagne (beige), blue (mid undertones), and _____ (_____) _____)

22. _____

- _____.
- Solid, _____
- _____ that are _____
- Variety of _____, which _____, silver, _____, cinnamon, _____, and chocolate with tabby and _____
- _____.
- _____ and _____
- _____ and likes to _____ and/or _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Breed Worksheet – Answer Key

Directions: Fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation

1. How Many Cat Breeds Are There?

- The answer is not as clear as you may think
- The Cat Fanciers Association only recognizes 42
- The International Cat Association recognizes 71 breeds

2. Ragdoll

- Topped the Cat Fancier's Association as the most popular cat breed for several years
- Loves to be held and is a wonderful lap cat
- Thrives on human attention
- Wonderful pet for children due to their docile and gentle personality
- One of the largest cat breeds at 12-20 lbs.
- Eyes are always blue and large
- Coloration is pointed, which means the color of their points is dark
- Point areas include the facial mask, ears, legs, and tail
- Fur is colorpointed, mitted, or bi-color, which can come in the colors red, lilac, cream, blue, seal, and chocolate

3. Exotic Shorthair

- Short hair that can be black, white, golden, silver, smoke, bi-color, or Himalayan
- Coat pattern can be solid, pointed, tabby, or tortoiseshell
- Eyes are blue, green, or gold
- Up to 15 lbs.
- Lives up to 15 years
- Low maintenance grooming and does not require a lot of exercise
- Low energy can make them not well suited for children

4. Maine Coon

- Known as the "Gentle Giant"
- Coat can come in any color
- Coat is heavy and shaggy
- Eye color is dependent on coat color but can be green, gold, green-gold, copper, blue, or odd-eyed
- 9-18 lbs.
- Lives 12-15 years
- Laidback but does not like to cuddle

- Gets along well with kids and other pets, including dogs

5. Persian

- Coat is long and thick but with a fine texture
- All colors are possible in this breed
- Eye color is dependent on coat color but can be copper, blue, green, blue-green, hazel, or odd-eyed (two different colors)
- 7-12 lbs.
- Lives 15-20 years
- Does not mind being alone
- Sweet personality and works well with adults, kids, and other pets
- Requires daily grooming

6. British Shorthair

- Common name is "British blue"
- Coat is short and dense
- Many solid and patterned colors, including white, black, blue, red, cream, smoke, silver, golden, cameo, tabby, tortoiseshell, calico, and bi-color
- Eye color varies depending on coat color and pattern but may be blue, gold, copper, green, blue-green, hazel or odd-eyed
- 7-17 lbs.
- Lives 12-16 years
- Calm and laidback but does not love being held or carried

7. Devon Rex

- Also called the "Pixie Cat"
- Coat can come in any color
- Coat patterns can be solid, tabby, shaded, tortoiseshell, calico, and more
- Eyes can be any color
- 6-9 lbs.
- Lives 9-15 years
- Large appetite
- Extremely playful and can easily learn tricks

8. Abyssinian

- Short hair can be ruddy, red, blue, cinnamon, or fawn in color
- Coat pattern can be solid or ticked
- Eyes are either gold or green
- Weighs up to 12 lbs.
- Lives up to 15 years
- Needs exercise to keep healthy

- Friendly to children and other pets
- Prefers a cat companion

9. American Shorthair

- Short hair that comes in many colors
- Tabby is the most common coat pattern
- Eyes can be copper, blue, gold, hazel, or green
- Weighs 11-15 lbs.
- Lives 15-20 years
- Prone to weight gain
- Gets along well with other pets
- Independent

10. Scottish Fold

- Also just called a “fold”
- Weighs up to 11 lbs.
- Short hair that can be brown, gray, black, red, cream, or white
- Coat pattern can be tabby, tortoiseshell, or calico
- Eyes can be green, blue-green, or gold
- Lives up to 14 years
- High risk of cartilage and bone disease, leading to controversy around breeding
- Very affectionate to kids, adults, and other pets

11. Sphynx

- “Peach fuzz hair” that can come in any color
- Markings and eyes can be any color
- Weigh less than 12 lbs.
- Live 8-14 years
- Loves other cats and dogs
- Playful and loyal
- Requires constant companionship
- Prone to sunburns, cardiomyopathy, and dental problems
- Does not tolerate cold

12. Oriental

- Other names include “Rainbow Cat” or “Ornamental”
 - Short hair coat that can come in white, black, gray, brown, or orange (300 variations)
 - Coat pattern can be solid, shaded, smoke, or tabby
 - Eye color can be green, blue, gold, yellow, or odd-eyed
1. Weighs up to 12 lbs.
 2. Lives for 15 years
 3. Healthy breed

4. Outgoing
5. Needs attention constantly

13. Siamese

- Coat is short hair that can be seal, chocolate, blue, or lilac in color
- Coat pattern is colorpoint
- Eyes are blue
- Lifespan is 12 years
- Weighs up to 14 lbs.
- Can suffer from crossed eyes
- Builds strong bonds with human family and other animals that are cat-friendly
- Also known as “Meezer”
- Can suffer from depression if left alone for long periods

14. Cornish Rex

- Coat colors include black, blue, lilac, brown, chocolate, red, and cream or smoke
- Coat is only one layer, which is the down layer
- Coat pattern can be bi-color, calico, tabby, spotted, or colorpoint
- Eye color is green, gold, or blue
- Lives up to 20 years
- No particular health issues
- Sensitive to hot and cold extremes
- Loving and social
- Demands attention
- Hypoallergenic

15. Norwegian Forest Cat

- Known as “Norsk skogskatt” or “Norsk skaukatt”
- Adapted to cold weather
- Weighs up to 18 lbs.
- Coat can be any color pattern, which may or may not include white markings
- All patterns are common except colorpoint
- Tabby is the most common pattern
- Lives up to 16 years
- Coat needs to be groomed weekly
- Friendly with man and beast

16. Siberian

- Coat varies from coarse to soft
- Moderately long to longhaired triple coat with a full collar ruff
- Coat can be any color
- Lives 10-18 years

- More likely to suffer from hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- Loves cold weather and playing in water
- Potentially hypoallergenic
- Noisy
- Gets along well with people and animals
- Very independent

17. Birman

- Known as the “Sacred Cat of Burma”
- Silky coat, piercing blue eyes, and white-gloved paws
- Points can come in an array of colors
- 7-14 lbs.
- Loves everyone, including humans and animals
- Enjoys having an animal companion
- Does not do well if left alone a lot
- Very healthy breed
- Lives 12-16 years

18. Russian Blue

- Bright green eyes and a coat that ranges from dark gray to silver
- Obesity can be a problem
- Can be tolerated by people who are allergic to cats
- Gentle and kind breed but does not like to cuddle compared to other breeds
- Generally healthy and long-lived, which means their lifespan can be as long as 20 years

19. Bengal

- Bred to look like a wildcat but is domesticated
- Hypoallergenic
- Coat colors can be brown tabby, seal sepia tabby, seal mink tabby, seal lynx point, black silver tabby, seal silver sepia tabby, seal silver mink tabby, or seal silver lynx point
- Spotted or marbled coat pattern
- Gold or green eyes
- Loves to play in water
- Very affectionate
- Gets along with dogs and other cats

20. Tonkinese

- Up to 12 lbs.
- Short hair can be platinum, champagne, blue, or natural
- Coat pattern is colorpoint, solid, or mink
- Lives up to 16 years

- Eye color can be blue, gold, or green
- Very friendly, sociable, playful, and intelligent
- Does not like to be left alone
- Works well with families with young children

21. Burmese

- Originated in Thailand
- Hypoallergenic
- Social, friendly, and highly clever
- 8-12 lbs.
- Great for first-time owners
- Can be left alone
- Coat colors include sable (dark brown), champagne (beige), blue (mid undertones), and platinum (a light gray with light brown undertones)

22. Ocicat

- Up to 15 lbs.
- Solid, muscular bodies
- Short coats that are dense and shiny
- Variety of coat colors, which include blue, silver, lavender, cinnamon, fawn, and chocolate with tabby and spotted patterns
- Dog-like personality
- Energetic and playful
- Social and likes to play with cats and/or dogs

Lesson One – Cat Breeds

REVIEW: Cat Breeds

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will review cat breeds by going over flashcards and testing their knowledge by taking a quiz.

Materials:

- Cat Kit Breed ID Flashcards
- *Cat Breed Quiz*
- *Cat Breed Quiz – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Have participants get into groups and distribute a set of flashcards to each group.
2. Provide directions on how to use the flashcards for review and give participants five minutes to use them.
3. Collect the flashcards and have participants return to their seats.
4. Distribute the quiz and provide directions on how to complete it.
5. After five minutes, collect the quiz.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Breeds Quiz

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. All cat breeds have green eyes. True or False
2. Maine Coon is the most popular cat breed. True or False
3. Due to the lack of cartilage in their ears, the breeding of Scottish Folds is controversial. True or False
4. The Sphynx breed is susceptible to getting sunburn. True or False
5. The Cornish Rex has a five-layer coat. True or False
6. Norwegian Forest Cats are adapted to cold weather. True or False
7. Russian blues have a long life expectancy, which means they can live up to 20 years. True or False
8. When it comes to long hair, the Tonkinese has the longest of any cat breed. True or False
9. Bengal cats are bred to look like wildcats. True or False
10. The Cat Fanciers' Association recognizes 12 breeds of cats. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Breeds Quiz – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. All cat breeds have green eyes. True or **False**
2. Maine Coon is the most popular cat breed. True or **False**
3. Due to the lack of cartilage in their ears, the breeding of Scottish Folds is controversial. **True** or False
4. The Sphynx breed is susceptible to getting sunburn. **True** or False
5. The Cornish Rex has a five-layer coat. True or **False**
6. Norwegian Forest Cats are adapted to cold weather. **True** or False
7. Russian blues have a long life expectancy, which means they can live up to 20 years. **True** or False
8. When it comes to long hair, the Tonkinese has the longest of any cat breed. True or **False**
9. Bengal cats are bred to look like wildcats. **True** or False
10. The Cat Fanciers' Associates recognizes 12 breeds of cats. True or **False**

Lesson Two – Feeding and Management

Lesson Overview

Participants will learn the basics on how to properly feed a cat along with what supplies are required for cat ownership.

Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- Explain why the term “domestic cat” is used when talking about feeding and management
- Define “obligate carnivore”
- List considerations required when deciding on what to feed your cat
- Explain food requirements for a kitten, adult cat, and senior cat
- Define what ages a kitten, adult cat, and senior cat are
- List what should be considered when determining how often to feed your cat
- List how many calories a kitten requires per day
- List how many calories an adult/senior cat requires per pound
- List the average amount of food required for an adult/senior cat
- List items required to feed your cat beyond food
- List items needed to meet the bathroom requirement of your cat
- Define “cat furniture”
- Explain why cat toys are important
- List grooming supplies
- List items required for your cat to travel
- List what is needed for dental care
- Explain why the other essentials are important
- Explain how you would welcome your new feline friend to your home

Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	• <i>Cat Ownership Assessment</i> • <i>Cat Ownership Assessment – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Cat Ownership Assessment</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes
LEARN	• <i>Feeding and Management of Domestic Cats</i> slide presentation • <i>Feeding and Management of Cats</i> worksheet • <i>Feeding and Management of Cats – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Feeding and Management of Cats</i> worksheet (one per participant). 2. Prepare <i>Feeding and Management of Domestic Cats</i> slide presentation for viewing.	40 minutes
REVIEW	• Feline Feeding and Management Poster • <i>Cat Feeding and Management Quiz</i> • <i>Cat Feeding and Management Quiz – Answer Key</i>	1. Display the Feline Feeding and Management Poster. 2. Print/photocopy <i>Cat Feeding and Management Quiz</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes

Lesson Two – Feeding and Management

FOCUS: Intro to Cat Feeding and Management Requirements

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will take an assessment to test their knowledge on what is required for cat ownership.

Materials:

- *Cat Ownership Assessment*
- *Cat Ownership Assessment – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Distribute the assessment and provide instructions on how to complete it.
2. Give participants five minutes to fill the assessment out and have participants trade papers.
3. Go over the answers as participants grade papers and collect the participant-graded assessments.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Ownership Assessment

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. A pet first aid kit is not something you should have for your cat. True or False
2. Dog clippers are fine to use on a cat. True or False
3. Kittens can eat adult cat food. True or False
4. The rule for the number of litterboxes in a multi-cat household is one per two cats. True or False
5. Flea and tick treatment is not important if your cat never goes outside. True or False
6. Part of catproofing your home means removing poisonous plants from the environment. True or False
7. Microchipping your cat is not an important measure if your cat never goes outside. True or False
8. A cat should have a collar and personalized ID tag. True or False
9. Cat toys should only be available for kittens. True or False
10. For your cat's safety and yours, a pet carrier is an important item to have so that you can travel with your pet safe and sound. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Ownership Requirements Assessment – Answer Key

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. A pet first aid kit is not something you should have for your cat. True or **False**
2. Dog clippers are fine to use on a cat. True or **False**
3. Kittens can eat adult cat food. True or **False**
4. The rule for the number of litterboxes for a multi-cat household is one per two cats. True or **False**
5. Flea and tick treatment is not important if your cat never goes outside. True or **False**
6. Part of catproofing your home means removing poisonous plants from the environment. **True** or False
7. Microchipping your cat is not an important measure if your cat never goes outside. True or **False**
8. A cat should have a collar and personalized ID tag. **True** or False
9. Cat toys should only be available for kittens. True or **False**
10. For your cat's safety and yours, a pet carrier is an important item to have so that you can travel with your pet safe and sound. **True** or False

Lesson Two – Feeding and Management

LEARN: Feline Feeding and Management

40 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn basic feeding and management of cats.

Materials:

- *Feeding and Management of Cats* worksheet
- *Feeding and Management of Cats* – Answer Key
- *Feeding and Management of Domestic Cats* slide presentation

Facilitation Steps:

1. Set up the slide presentation and distribute the worksheet.
2. Provide directions on how to complete the worksheet before starting the slide presentation.
3. Once the slide presentation is complete, collect the worksheet.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Feeding and Management of Cats

Directions: Fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. _____ “ _____ ?”
 - There are _____ the _____, or _____
 - This _____ and _____ cat
(_____)
 - While the _____ is in the _____
_____, they do _____
 - _____ that _____
_____, which means _____, but this is _____
 - _____ are _____
_____, which means that there are certain things they should _____
eat
 - They should _____ scraps and _____
2. _____
 - _____ depends on a _____:
 - The cat’s age
 - _____ are an indoor or outdoor cat
 - If _____ health _____
3. _____
 - _____ the _____, a _____ into an
_____ they reach their _____
 - They _____ also _____ - _____,
_____ - _____
and/or _____
 - _____ can also _____
4. _____
 - An _____ is _____ one and _____
 - _____ and/or _____ adult food
 - _____

- This is the _____ can _____
_____ to _____ with _____

5. _____

- A _____ is _____ seven years
- A _____ should be
_____ - _____ issues

6. _____

- While it is _____ the _____
_____ the _____, there are a few tips to
know
- _____ the _____ and _____
- _____ their activity _____
- Things to _____:
 - _____ or _____?
 - _____,
_____ a female _____
 - _____
 - _____ such as _____
- _____ be _____ for

- Food _____ all the time for kittens _____
- An adolescent _____,
_____, should be _____
- Adult _____ should be _____
per day
- _____ should be established so that the cat
learns when mealtime is

7. _____?

- _____
- _____ - _____
- _____ need _____
- This _____ / _____ to _____ / _____
_____ - _____ for _____ cat

- To help your _____ / _____ maintain a _____
_____, it is _____ out _____
8. _____
To _____ the “_____” for your cat, you will _____
_____ - _____ and a _____
9. _____
- If your cat is an _____
_____, then _____

 - This _____ a:
 - _____ pan
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - If _____ than one cat, then _____
_____ box or pan per cat
10. _____
- To _____, a
_____ and/or _____ is needed
 - You will also need a _____ for your feline _____ in after a long day
11. _____
- To _____, you will need toys
 - The _____ of _____ on age
 - If you _____, then _____ kitten

 - An _____ can use:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
12. _____
- While _____, their
_____ also _____
 - _____,
_____, and _____
 - All of these _____ looking and

13. _____
- If you plan on _____, then you will _____ a _____ to keep _____ while _____ the _____
 - You will also _____ a _____
 - While this is not necessarily a “travel” item, it is _____ when it comes to _____
 - When _____ a _____, _____ it is a _____ to keep _____ cat _____ if the collar gets caught on something

14. _____
- _____ their teeth cleaned
 - _____ used _____
 - If you have a _____, then a _____ is required
 - Adults _____ seniors need larger _____
 - _____-appropriate _____

15. _____
- Includes _____, _____, and _____
 - _____ so _____
 - _____ and _____ if needed
 - _____

16. _____
- _____ for your new family member by _____
 - _____ what your _____ and _____ as _____ falling _____ coffee table

17. _____
- When you _____ a _____, it is important to _____ the _____
 - One way is to _____ their _____
 - _____ of _____ - _____ together
 - After a few days, _____ and _____ your _____ when to _____ the _____

18. _____
- _____ to _____
_____ the _____
 - This _____, _____, and _____

19. _____
- _____ expect your cat _____ want to cuddle

 - _____ can be _____
_____ furry _____
 - _____ cat to decide when they _____ to be held

20. Get a Veterinarian

- Every cat will need a _____
- Getting a _____ will help them _____ about your cat's

- This will give your cat a chance to _____ a _____
with their vet under _____ circumstances versus in an _____
situation

Name: _____ Class: _____

Feeding and Management of Cats – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. Why the Term “Domestic Cats?”

- There are 41 species of cat in the Felidae, or cat Family
- This includes 40 wildcats and 1 domesticated cat (Felis catus)
- While the domesticated cat is in the same family as wildcats, they do have different feeding and management requirements
- You may believe that domesticated cats are carnivores, which means they eat meat, but this is not completely true
- Domesticated cats are obligate carnivores, which means that there are certain things they should not eat
- They should not eat table scraps and bones

2. What To Feed Your Cat

- This answer depends on a few factors:
 - The cat's age
 - Whether they are an indoor or outdoor cat
 - If they have any special health issues

3. Kitten

- Depending on the breed, a kitten does not turn into an adult until they reach their first birthday
- They may also need kitten-formulated, veterinarian-recommended supplements and/or medication
- Kitten treats can also be given

4. Adult

- An adult cat is between one and seven years old
- Require dry and/or wet adult food
- Treats can be given
- This is the age that special formulas can be given to deal with issues like hairballs

5. Senior

- A senior cat is older than seven years
- A special cat food formula for seniors should be given for age-related issues

6. How Often To Feed

- While it is best to follow the cat food recommendations on the package, there are a few tips to know
- Consider the age of your cat and whether they are fixed
- Think about their activity level as well
- Things to consider:
 - Is your cat indoor or outdoor?
 - Reproductive status, which means whether a female is pregnant or nursing
 - Health status
 - Body condition such as being underweight or overweight
- Food should be available at all times for nursing mothers
- Food should be available all the time for kittens up to age six months
- An adolescent cat, which is six months to one year old, should be fed twice per day
- Adult and senior cats should be fed twice per day
- A feeding schedule should be established so that the cat learns when mealtime is

7. How Much Should You Feed Your Cat?

- Depends on several factors
- Kittens need 300-500 calories per day
- Adults and senior cats only need 20 calories per pound of cat
- This equates to 1/3 to 1/2 cup of food per day or 167-200 calories for the average cat
- To help your adult/senior cat maintain a healthy weight, it is important to measure out food

8. Other Feeding Supplies

To complete the “table setting” for your cat, you will need a non-skid food bowl and a water bowl or fountain

9. Bathroom Essentials

- If your cat is an indoor cat or comes inside sometimes, then you will need bathroom essentials
- This includes a:
 - Litter box or pan
 - Litter
 - Litter scoop
 - Litter mat
- If you have more than one cat, then you will need one litter box or pan per cat

10. Cat Furniture

- To address their need to scratch, a scratching post and/or cat tree is needed
- You will also need a comfy cat bed for your feline to relax in after a long day

11. Toys

- To keep your feline companion busy, you will need toys
- The type of toys are dependent on age
- If you have a kitten, then you need kitten toys
- An adult or senior cat can use:
 - Wand toys
 - Catnip toys
 - Ball toys
 - Interactive toys

12. Grooming Supplies

- While cats love to groom themselves, their owners also need to help
- You will need cat nail clippers, deshedding brush, and pet bath wipes
- All of these items will help keep your feline looking and feeling their best

13. Travel Items

- If you plan on traveling with your cat, then you will need a cat carrier or crate to keep you and your cat safe while in the vehicle
- You will also need a cat collar and tags
 - While this is not necessarily a “travel” item, it is very important when it comes to identifying a lost pet
 - When purchasing a collar, make sure it is a breakaway type to keep your cat from strangling if the collar gets caught on something

14. Dental Care

- Cats need their teeth cleaned
- Tool used depends on age
- If you have a kitten, then a small toothbrush is required
- Adults and seniors need larger toothbrushes
- Age-appropriate toothpaste is needed

15. Other Essentials

- Includes cat vaccinations, heartworm prevention, and flea and tick treatment
- Microchipping so your cat can be found if lost
- Vitamins and supplements if needed
- Pet first aid kit

16. Welcoming Your Cat Home

- Prepare the environment for your new family member by removing poisonous plants
- Check out what your cat's tail is hitting and remove these items, such as items that keep falling off of your coffee table

17. Create a Space for Your Cat

- When you first bring a cat home, it is important to slowly introduce them to the space
- One way is to put all their essentials in one room
- Spend lots of one-on-one time together
- After a few days, leave the door open and let your feline decide when to explore the environment

18. Make Introductions

- Slowly make introductions to everyone in the household
- This includes other pets, children, and adults

19. Tolerate Shyness

- Do not expect your cat to immediately want to cuddle on your lap
- A new environment can be confusing to your furry friend
- Allow your cat to decide when they want to be held

20. Get a Veterinarian

- Every cat will need a checkup
- Getting a veterinarian will help them learn about your cat's needs
- This will give your cat a chance to develop a relationship with their vet under calm circumstances versus in an emergency situation

Lesson Two – Feeding and Management of Cats

REVIEW: Cat Feeding and Management

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will review by studying a poster and testing their knowledge through a quiz.

Materials:

- Feline Feeding and Management Poster
- *Cat Feeding and Management Quiz*
- *Cat Feeding and Management Quiz – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Display the poster and explain how to use it for review.
2. Give participants five minutes for review before taking down or covering the poster.
3. Distribute the quiz and provide instructions on how to fill it out.
4. Give participants five minutes to complete the quiz before collecting it.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Feeding and Management Quiz

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. Cats require their teeth brushed. True or False
2. Food should not be left out all the time for nursing mothers. True or False
3. Adult and senior cats should be fed twice a day. True or False
4. A cat is considered an adult at seven years old. True or False
5. When it comes to feeding, whether your cat is indoors or outside is not something that should be considered. True or False
6. One litter box is fine regardless of how many cats you have. True or False
7. Domestic cats are obligate carnivores. True or False
8. It is not important whether the cat collar is a breakaway type or not. True or False
9. Your cat building a relationship with a veterinarian is important. True or False
10. While your feline will groom themselves, it is important to have and use a deshedding brush on them. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Feeding and Management Quiz – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. Cats require their teeth brushed. **True** or False
2. Food should not be left out all the time for nursing mothers. **True** or False
3. Adult and senior cats should be fed twice a day. **True** or False
4. A cat is considered an adult at seven years old. True or **False**
5. When it comes to feeding, whether your cat is indoors or outside is not something that should be considered. **True** or False
6. One litter box is fine regardless of how many cats you have. True or **False**
7. Domestic cats are obligate carnivores. **True** or False
8. It is not important whether the cat collar is a breakaway type or not. True or **False**
9. Your cat building a relationship with a veterinarian is important. **True** or False
10. While your feline will groom themselves, it is important to have and use a deshedding brush on them. **True** or False

Lesson Three – Cat Diseases and Parasites

Lesson Overview

Participants will be introduced to common cat diseases and parasites along with solutions and/or treatment for each.

Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- Define “disease”
- Define “parasite”
- Explain the two types of parasites
- Explain common symptoms of cat diseases
- Explain common symptoms of internal parasites
- Explain common symptoms of external parasites
- List a common solution to cat disease
- List a common solution to cat internal parasites
- List a common solution to cat external parasites

Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	• <i>Cat Diseases and Parasites Assessment</i> • <i>Cat Diseases and Parasites Assessment – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Cat Diseases and Parasites Assessment</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes
LEARN	• <i>Diseases and Parasites of Cats</i> slide presentation • <i>Diseases and Parasites of Cats</i> worksheet • <i>Diseases and Parasites of Cats – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Diseases and Parasites of Cats</i> worksheet (one per participant). 2. Prepare <i>Diseases and Parasites of Cats</i> slide presentation for viewing.	40 minutes
REVIEW	• Cat Kit Diseases and Parasites Trivia Cards • <i>Feline Diseases and Parasites Quiz</i> • <i>Feline Diseases and Parasites Quiz – Answer Key</i>	1. Gather Cat Diseases and Parasites Trivia Cards. 2. Print/photocopy <i>Feline Diseases and Parasites Quiz</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes

Lesson Three – Cat Diseases and Parasites

FOCUS: Intro to Cat Diseases and Parasites

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will test their knowledge of cat diseases and parasites by taking an assessment and then grading it.

Materials:

- *Cat Diseases and Parasites Assessment*
- *Cat Diseases and Parasites Assessment – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Distribute the assessment and provide directions on how to fill it out.
2. Give participants five minutes to complete the assessment before having participants trade papers.
3. Go over the correct answers as participants grade papers before collecting the graded assessments.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Diseases and Parasites Assessment

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. Rabies is a curable parasite. True or False
2. Keeping the litter box clean is a way of reducing the chances of your cat developing a parasite problem. True or False
3. There are no diseases or parasites that pass from mother to kittens. True or False
4. There are three types of parasites. True or False
5. Constantly licking fur is one sign of fleas. True or False
6. Cats can never develop cancer. True or False
7. A cat can get hookworms through the ears. True or False
8. Prevention through vaccination is the best approach when it comes to protecting your cat from heartworms. True or False
9. A cat leaping out of windows and doors is not a problem. True or False
10. Keeping a cat indoors is not a way of protecting them from diseases and/or parasites. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Diseases and Parasites Assessment – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. Rabies is a curable parasite. True or **False**
2. Keeping the litter box clean is a way of reducing the chances of your cat developing a parasite problem. **True** or False
3. There are no diseases or parasites that pass from mother to kittens. True or **False**
4. There are three types of parasites. True or **False**
5. Constantly licking fur is one sign of fleas. True or **False**
6. Cats can never develop cancer. True or **False**
7. A cat can get hookworms through the ears. True or **False**
8. Prevention through vaccination is the best approach when it comes to protecting your cat from heartworms. **True** or False
9. A cat leaping out of windows and doors is not a problem. True or **False**
10. Keeping a cat indoors is not a way of protecting your pet from diseases and/or parasites. True or **False**

Lesson Three – Cat Diseases and Parasites

LEARN: Feline Diseases and Parasites

40 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn about cat diseases and parasites by watching a slide presentation and filling out a worksheet that corresponds to the presentation.

Materials:

- *Diseases and Parasites of Cats* slide presentation
- *Diseases and Parasites of Cats* worksheet
- *Diseases and Parasites of Cats* – Answer Key

Facilitation Steps:

1. Set up the slide presentation and distribute the worksheet.
2. Provide directions on how to fill out the worksheet and begin the slide presentation.
3. Once the slide presentation is complete, collect the worksheet from participants.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Diseases and Parasites of Cats

Directions: Fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. _____?
 - A _____ is a _____ that has a _____ that are _____
 - A disease is an _____ that _____
 - _____ is _____
2. _____ Cats Get
3. _____
 - _____ is _____ an _____
 - _____ to as a _____
 - Occurs when _____ and/or _____
 - _____:
 - Swelling
 - _____
 - Bad breath
 - _____
 - Other issues
 - _____ include _____, which is normally _____, and _____

- _____, which is often _____ -
- _____
- _____
4. _____
- _____ by _____
 - _____: _____ is when the _____, and _____ is when _____
 - _____ I _____, while _____
 - _____ include _____, being thirsty all the time, and _____
 - _____ the cat will _____ by the _____
5. _____ (_____)
- _____ with FIV may _____
 - _____:
 - _____
 - Enlarged nodes
 - _____
 - Disheveled coat
 - _____
 - _____ through _____, _____, and _____ - _____ who _____
 - _____ is the best _____ by _____

- _____ the _____
_____ to take
hold and cause death

6. _____ (_____)

- _____ of the _____

- _____ the _____
that is _____ that can _____
_____ a cat's _____
- _____ are _____
- _____ is _____ from _____ and _____

- _____ on to their kittens

- _____:
 - Fever
 - _____
 - Poor coat condition
 - _____
 - Abscesses
- _____, _____ and

- _____
- _____
- If your cat tests _____, then feed them a _____
_____ and _____

7. _____

- _____ that _____

- _____

- _____ occurs when the _____
_____ an

- _____ rabies is

- _____
- _____
- _____ through _____ is the best approach
- _____:
 - Weakness
 - _____
 - Change in behavior
 - _____

8. _____

- _____ a _____
- _____ are the _____ that _____
- More _____ and _____
- _____ from one cat to _____:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- _____, a _____ is a _____
- _____ are _____, including chlamydia and Bordetella
- _____:
 - _____
 - Fever
 - _____
 - Depression
 - _____
- _____
- To prevent:
 - _____
 - Keep cats indoors

- _____
- See a veterinarian
- _____ are _____ along with _____
_____ the _____ and _____
- _____ :
 - _____
 - Isolation
 - _____
 - _____

9. _____ - _____

- _____ but is a _____
- Occurs when the _____
_____, _____,
- _____ :
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- _____ % _____ if cats are _____
- Prevent by _____ and
_____ on
_____ and/or _____

10. _____ ?

- A _____ is _____
_____ and _____
- Parasites can be _____
- _____ the

- _____ and/or

11. _____

12. _____

- _____ to _____
- _____ by a _____

(_____) _____ a _____
- _____ the

- While the _____ the
_____, _____ the _____
- _____ are _____,
_____, and _____

- _____
- _____ through _____
_____ is the best approach

13. _____

- _____ (_____) _____ the _____
_____ of cats
- _____ the _____ or _____

- _____:
 - Vomiting
 - _____
 - Dull hair
 - _____
- Can be _____
- _____ done by _____
_____ sample _____
- _____ with _____

- _____

- _____
_____ is another _____
_____ that reduces the _____

14. _____

- _____ (_____) are very small and _____
- _____ become _____ as the _____
_____ are _____
- A severe case of _____ and black,

- _____ is the _____ and
consists of _____
- _____ are how this issue is evaluated; this includes

- _____ is the _____

15. _____

- _____ that _____
- _____ in _____
- The _____ the

- The _____
- Once the _____
_____, _____
_____ and _____ the _____
- While it can be _____ of the tapeworm
_____, they can be _____
and _____

- Cats _____

- _____ can _____

- _____ with _____

16. _____

17. _____

- Ticks are egg-shaped, creepy crawlies that _____

- They _____ the _____
- _____,
- _____ and _____ is

- _____ - flea/tick _____ is _____
_____ the _____

- Can _____ if there is enough blood loss _____

18. _____

- Fleas _____ but _____ also
_____ because they _____

- _____ are ready to lay eggs and _____

- Fleas _____
- If there are enough fleas, your cat _____

- _____ and “_____,” or _____
_____, _____ to _____
- A _____ - _____ can be
_____ the _____

- Keep your _____ often _____

19. _____

- _____ but _____
- _____ a _____ that _____
- _____ include head shaking, ear _____, and brown or black discharge _____ the _____
- Can cause _____
- _____ is _____ and _____ and/or _____

20. _____

- _____ “ _____ ”
- _____
- Sarcoptic mange _____ the _____ and _____
- _____:
 - _____
 - Hair loss
 - _____
 - Crusting
- _____ can _____
- _____ is taken and _____ at _____
- _____ is a _____ and _____ to _____
- _____ the _____ to prevent it from _____

21. _____

- The cat _____ is _____, but it can appear _____

- _____ include _____; crusts; and
_____ the _____, _____, and

- Cats may _____
- _____ are viewed _____
_____ to _____ the mite is

- _____ is a _____ and may require other

Name: _____ Class: _____

Diseases and Parasites of Cats – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will fill in the blanks as they watch the slide presentation.

1. **What Is a Disease?**

- A disease is a medical condition that has a set of known signs and symptoms that are not related to any external injury
- A disease is an abnormal condition that negatively affects an organism
- Infectious disease is caused by viruses and bacteria

2. **Common Diseases Cats Get**

3. **Cancer**

- Cancer is not an infectious disease
- Referred to as a multifactorial disease
- Occurs when certain cells grow out of control and spreads to surrounding tissue and/or other parts of the body
- Symptoms:
 - Swelling
 - Lumps
 - Bad breath
 - Weight loss
 - Other issues
- Types include lymphosarcoma, which is normally found in younger cats, and squamous cell carcinoma, which is often found in light-colored or white cats
- Cancer treatment depends on type

4. **Diabetes**

- Complex disease caused by either a lack of the hormone insulin or an inadequate response to insulin

- Two types: Type I is when the body does not produce insulin or not enough, and type II is when impaired insulin production is present along with an incorrect response to insulin
- Type I requires insulin, while type II can use other forms of treatment
- Symptoms include weight loss, being thirsty all the time, and changes in appetite
- Most of the time the cat will have type I diabetes by the time the issue is noticed

5. Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)

- Cats infected with FIV may go years without showing any symptoms
- Symptoms:
 - Anemia
 - Enlarged nodes
 - Weight loss
 - Disheveled coat
 - Poor appetite
- Transmitted through a cat with FIV deeply biting another one, mother to kittens, and free-roaming males who fight
- Prevention is the best approach by keeping your cats indoors
- FIV weakens the immune system and allows secondary infections to take hold and cause death

6. Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV)

- One of the most commonly diagnosed causes of disease and death
- Caused by the feline leukemia virus that is an RNA retrovirus that can severely inhibit a cat's immune system
- Young cats are more susceptible
- Virus is shed from bodily fluids and direct contact
- Mothers can pass it on to their kittens through milk
- Symptoms:
 - Fever
 - Pale or inflamed gums
 - Poor coat condition
 - Chronic skin disease
 - Abscesses
- To prevent, keep cats indoors and vaccinate
- Lab test required
- No cure
- If your cat tests positive, then feed them a balanced diet and test every six months

7. Rabies

- Viral disease that affects the brain and spinal cord
- Passed by bite from infected mammal
- Less common spread occurs when the saliva of an infected animal gets into an open wound
- Biggest risk of spreading rabies is through wild animals
- No test available for live animals
- No cure
- Prevention through vaccination is the best approach
- Symptoms:
 - Weakness
 - Loss of appetite
 - Change in behavior
 - Death

8. Upper Respiratory Infections

- Caused by a variety of viruses and bacteria
- Feline calicivirus and feline herpesvirus are the most common viruses that cause upper respiratory infections
- More commonly found in shelters and multi-cat households
- Passed from one cat to another by:
 - Sneezing
 - Coughing
 - Grooming
 - Sharing bowls
- Once infected, a cat is a carrier for life regardless if they show symptoms
- Secondary bacterial infections are common, including chlamydia and Bordetella
- Symptoms:
 - Sneezing
 - Fever
 - Coughing
 - Depression
 - Runny nose
- No cure
- To prevent:
 - Reduce stress
 - Keep cats indoors
 - Keep vaccinations up to date

- See a veterinarian
- Symptoms are used to diagnose along with age of the cat and vaccinations
- Treatment:
 - Medication
 - Isolation
 - Rest
 - Fluid and nutritional support

9. High-Rise Syndrome

- Not a disease but is a common problem for cats
- Occurs when the cat accidentally falls from an open window, fire escape, or terrace
- Effects:
 - Broken bones
 - Shattered jaws
 - Punctured lungs
 - Death
- 90% survival rate if cats are taken to the veterinarian
- Prevent by installing screens in windows and not allowing your cat to sit on fire escapes and/or terraces

10. What Are Parasites?

- A parasite is an organism that lives on or in a host organism and gets its food from the host at the host's expense
- Parasites can be broken into two groups
- Internal parasites live inside the host's gastrointestinal tract
- External parasites live on and/or around the host

11. Internal Parasites

12. Heartworms

- Less likely to occur in cats
- Caused by a mosquito infected with *Dirofilaria immitis* (heartworm parasite) biting a cat
- Larvae are transmitted to the bloodstream
- While the immune system will fight the larvae, some can make it to the heart
- Symptoms are depression, persistent cough, and loss of appetite
- Blood test required
- Prevention through heartworm vaccination is the best approach

13. Roundworms

- Roundworms (*Toxascaris leonina* and *Toxocara cati*) are the most common intestinal parasite of cats
- Cats ingest the eggs or eat infected rodents
- Symptoms:
 - Vomiting
 - Weight loss
 - Dull hair
 - Potbelly appearance
- Can be passed to kittens through milk
- Diagnostic testing done by viewing a stool sample under a microscope
- Treat with dewormer
- Can prevent by reducing exposure to feces and prohibiting your cat from hunting
- Treating female cats before breeding is another preventative measure that reduces the chances of passing roundworms on to kittens

14. Hookworms

- Hookworms (*Ancylostoma* and *Uncinaria*) are very small and normally not easily seen in feces
- Adult cats become infected as the larvae penetrate the skin or are ingested
- A severe case of hookworm causes anemia and black, tarry stool
- Prevention is the easiest approach and consists of keeping litter boxes clean
- Symptoms are how this issue is evaluated; this includes looking at the color of stool
- Dewormer is the treatment

15. Tapeworms

- Tapeworms have flattened bodies that look like ribbon or tape
- Adult tapeworms live in cat intestines
- The head will embed itself into the intestinal wall while the body grows
- The body is segmented with eggs
- Once the tapeworm's body gets a certain length, it will break off from the head and go through the intestinal tract
- While it can be hard to see the eggs of the tapeworm in the stool, they can be seen on the cat's tail and around the rectum
- Cats get tapeworm by eating infected fleas while grooming or eating infected rodents
- Controlling fleas and rodents can reduce the chances of developing tapeworm
- Treat with dewormer

16. External Parasites

17. Ticks

- Ticks are egg-shaped, creepy crawlies that get on your cat when they walk past the parasite
- They attach to the skin and suck blood
- Once full, they fall off
- Observation and proper removal is one approach to treatment
- Long-term flea/tick treatment is applied to the skin for prevention along with keeping the cat indoors
- Can cause anemia if there is enough blood loss along with Lyme disease and babesiosis

18. Fleas

- Fleas occur during warm weather but can also be an indoor problem because they hide in carpet and bedding
- Female fleas are ready to lay eggs and can lay up to 50 per day
- Fleas suck blood from your pet
- If there are enough fleas, your cat can become anemic from blood loss
- Scratching and “flea dirt,” or flea droppings, are signs to watch for
- A long-lasting flea treatment can be applied to the skin to prevent fleas
- Keep your cat’s indoor environment flea free by vacuuming floors often along with general cleaning

19. Ear Mites

- Common in young cats but can occur at any age
- Caused by a mite that lives in and around the ear
- Signs include head shaking, ear scratching, and brown or black discharge coming from the ear
- Can cause secondary infections from the scratching
- Treatment is cleaning the area and applying a miticide and/or antibiotics

20. Sarcoptic Mange Mites

- Commonly called “scabies”
- Highly contagious
- Sarcoptic mange mites burrow under the top layer of skin and cause intense itching
- Signs:
 - Scratching
 - Hair loss

- Skin rash
- Crusting
- Secondary infections can occur
- Skin scraping is taken and looked at under a microscope to confirm
- Treatment is a miticide and medication to soothe the skin and treat infection
- Clean the cat's environment to prevent it from coming back

21. Demodectic Mange Mites

- The cat demodectic mange mite is not common, but it can appear
- Symptoms include hair loss; crusts; and scaly skin around the face, neck, and eyelids
- Cats may excessively groom those areas
- Skin scrapings are viewed under a microscope to determine if the mite is present
- Treatment is a miticide and may require other medication to treat secondary issues

Lesson Three – Cat Diseases and Parasites

REVIEW: Feline Diseases and Parasites

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will review the information about cat diseases and parasites and then take a quiz.

Materials:

- Cat Kit Diseases and Parasites Trivia Cards
- *Feline Diseases and Parasites Quiz*
- *Feline Diseases and Parasites Quiz – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Have participants get into pairs and distribute a set of trivia cards to each group.
2. Provide directions on how to use the cards for review and give participants five minutes to review.
3. Collect the cards and have participants get out of their groups.
4. Distribute the quiz and provide directions on how to fill it out.
5. Give participants five minutes to complete quiz before collecting it from them.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Feline Diseases and Parasites Quiz

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. Upper respiratory infections are caused by several different kinds of viruses and bacteria. True or False
2. If your cat develops diabetes, you may find that they lick their paws often. True or False
3. High-rise syndrome is caused by ear mites. True or False
4. Tapeworms live in an adult cat's intestinal tract. True or False
5. Demodectic mange mites are very common in cats. True or False
6. Ticks can cause anemia in cats. True or False
7. Vaccinating your cat is not a way of preventing disease. True or False
8. Deworming is a treatment for internal parasites. True or False
9. A mother cat cannot transfer any diseases and/or parasites through her milk. True or False
10. Keeping litter boxes clean and not allowing your cat to hunt are not methods for preventing diseases and parasites. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Feline Diseases and Parasites Quiz – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. Upper respiratory infections are caused by several different kinds of viruses and bacteria. **True** or False
2. If your cat develops diabetes, you may find that they lick their paws often. True or **False**
3. High-rise syndrome is caused by ear mites. True or **False**
4. Tapeworms live in an adult cat's intestinal tract. **True** or False
5. Demodectic mange mites are very common in cats. True or **False**
6. Ticks can cause anemia in cats. **True** or False
7. Vaccinating your cat is not a way of preventing disease. True or **False**
8. Deworming is a treatment for internal parasites. **True** or False
9. A mother cat cannot transfer any diseases and/or parasites through her milk. True or **False**
10. Keeping litter boxes clean and not allowing your cat to hunt are not methods for preventing diseases and parasites. **True** or False

Lesson Four – Feline Reproductive System

Lesson Overview

In this lesson, participants will learn main reproductive systems of the male and female cat. They will gain understanding of the main parts and functions of the cat reproductive system.

Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- Display knowledge of both male and female cat reproductive systems
- Understand the parts and functions of cat reproduction

Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	• Whiteboard and marker • <i>Cat Reproductive Focus List</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Cat Reproductive Focus List</i> (one per participant). 2. Write the titles of each list on the whiteboard.	5 minutes
LEARN	• <i>Cat Reproductive System</i> slide presentation • <i>Cat Reproductive System Student Notes</i> • <i>Cat Reproductive System Student Notes – Answer Key</i>	1. Prepare <i>Cat Reproductive System</i> slide presentation for viewing. 2. Print/photocopy <i>Cat Reproductive System Student Notes</i> (one per participant).	30 minutes
REVIEW	• <i>Cat Reproductive System Worksheet</i> • <i>Cat Reproductive System Worksheet – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Cat Reproductive System Worksheet</i> (one per participant).	10-15 minutes

Lesson Four – Feline Reproductive System

FOCUS: Self-Assessment on the Cat Reproductive System

5 minutes

Purpose:

Participants work in groups or individually to check how much they know about reproductive parts and functions.

Materials:

- Whiteboard and marker
- *Cat Reproductive Focus List*

Facilitation Steps:

1. On the whiteboard, write down two titles:
“Male Reproduction” and “Female Reproduction.”
2. Have participants discuss and write on their list the parts that make up each part of the reproductive system for both male and female feline reproduction.
3. After a few minutes, discuss the answers participants wrote down on their *Cat Reproductive Focus List*.
4. End with a discussion about how participants will now learn the parts and will be able to reflect on the parts that they know now versus the parts that they learn by the end of the lesson.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Reproductive Focus List

Male Reproduction	Female Reproduction

Lesson Four – Feline Reproductive System

LEARN: Cat Reproductive System

30 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn the parts and function of the cat reproductive system.

Materials:

- *Cat Reproductive System* slide presentation
- *Cat Reproductive System Student Notes*
- *Cat Reproductive System Student Notes – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Look over the *Cat Reproductive System* slide presentation to get a good understanding of what you will be presenting.
2. Distribute the *Cat Reproductive System Student Notes* to participants.
3. Present the *Cat Reproductive Systems* slide presentation to your class. Share and discuss the following information from each slide.

Slide 1: The Cat Reproductive System

Slide 2: Male and Female Reproductive System

Cats are fertile animals. A queen, or intact female cat, may produce two or three litters of kittens per year, which is one reason for the large number of stray, unwanted kittens.

Female cats go into heat. During this time, they are interested in mating and can conceive (get pregnant) if they do mate. A female can mate with more than one male. Periods of heat last a few days. Rolling, stretching, rubbing, crying, and yowling characterize a female cat in heat.

If the female cat does not mate and conceive, the cycle will be repeated in a few weeks. It is possible to prevent a female cat from becoming pregnant. You can keep her in the house, isolated from any tomcats (unneutered males),

during her heat, or you can have her spayed (ovariohysterectomy).

Slide 3: Spaying

Spaying is a surgical procedure that involves removal of the female reproductive organs. The operation is usually performed at age six to seven months, although it can be done successfully later, after a cat has had kittens.

After being spayed, a cat is no longer interested in mating, and she is unable to conceive. Many cat owners choose to have their pets neutered or spayed. This is done to prevent the birth of unwanted kittens. It also makes male cats more suitable house pets.

Slide 4: Neutering

Neutering a male cat involves surgical removal of the testicles. A neutered male no longer shows interest in mating. A tomcat tends to roam a lot, get into many fights, and mark his territory.

Territory is marked by spraying urine on walls, inside and outside of your house. The odor of the urine is unpleasant and enduring. Tomcats seldom live to an old age. A neutered male tends to stay home, fight less, and live much longer than toms.

A common myth against spaying and neutering is that the pet will get obese. This can be successfully prevented by not overfeeding the pet.

Slide 5: Male Reproduction

Slide 6: Male Reproductive Organs

The tomcat's (male cat) reproductive organs are the penis, testicles, and prostate gland. A male cat has two testicles suspended in a sac-like structure, the scrotum, outside of its body. The testicles produce and store sperm, which is the

seed that fertilizes the eggs produced by the female. Testosterone, a hormone that is essential to the male's sexual development and activity, is also produced by the testicles.

The prostate gland produces seminal fluid, which transports the sperm.

Slide 7: Copulation

When two cats mate, the male mounts the female and inserts his penis into her vagina. This is called copulation. The act of copulation ends after the male ejaculates (squirts) seminal fluid into the female's vagina.

The sperm in the seminal fluid then swim up through the vagina, into the uterus, and finally into the oviduct. The oviduct is where the sperm fertilize the eggs.

Slide 8: Female Reproduction

Slides 9-10: Female Reproductive Organs

The female cat's reproductive system consists of the vulva, vagina, cervix, uterus, oviducts, and ovaries. The vulva is the external opening of the reproductive tract.

The lips of the vulva are located just below the anus. The vagina is a tube just inside the vulva. It is where the male's penis will be during copulation as well as the passageway for kittens being born.

The vagina is also the location of the end of the urethra.

The cervix is next (the opening between the uterus and vagina). During pregnancy, it serves as a seal or barrier between the sterile uterus and the outside world. It relaxes at birth and allows the kittens to enter the vagina.

The uterus is a tubular organ shaped like a "Y," the body being the bottom part of the Y and the horns being the top part. The uterus extends from the pelvis to the kidneys. It consists of a body and two horns. It is in the horns of the uterus that kitten embryos are implanted and develop.

The oviduct is a tiny tube that connects the uterus to the ovaries. The oviduct is the actual site where fertilization occurs. The ovaries are a peanut-sized organ located near the kidneys.

Slide 11: Ovaries and the Estrous Cycle

The ovaries are where ova or eggs are produced. The ovaries control the estrous cycle. The estrous cycle is the recurrent pattern of sexual receptivity followed by periods of time without sexual receptivity in the female.

The most distinct period is estrus, or heat, and this is the time of sexual receptivity or breeding. The hormones estrogen and progesterone are made in the ovary during stages of the estrous cycle.

The estrous cycle begins with the development of several follicles. A follicle is a small fluid sac that will contain an egg. Each follicle will grow and produce estrogen.

Estrogen is the hormone which is responsible for the "in heat" or estrous behaviors of the female.

Slide 12: Ovulation

Ovulation is the rupture of the follicle and release of the egg into the oviduct. Cats are induced ovulators, meaning ovulation occurs as the result of mating.

After ovulation, the follicle changes to form a corpora leuta (CL). The CL produces progesterone, which is a hormone needed to maintain pregnancy.

If the cat does not have kittens, the CL will keep her "out of heat." When the CL quits producing progesterone, follicles will begin to grow, and another estrous cycle will begin.

The cat is known as a seasonally polyestrous animal. This means she will have many estrous cycles only during certain times of the year. It is photoperiod, or length of day, which controls the estrous cycle.

Cat Kit Curriculum

Therefore, cats usually will not come into heat during the winter. They will wait until springtime.

4. Answer any questions using the *Cat Reproductive System Student Notes – Answer Key*.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Reproductive System Student Notes

Directions: Fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

Cat Reproduction

A _____, or intact female cat, may:

- Produce two or three litters of kittens a year
- Go into heat, during which time they are interested in _____ and can _____ (get pregnant)
- Mate with more than one male

In Heat

- Periods of heat last a _____ days
- _____ characterize a female cat in heat
- If the cat does not mate and conceive, the cycle will be _____ in a few weeks
- It is _____ to prevent a female cat from becoming pregnant
 - Keep her in the house, isolated from any _____ (unneutered males)
 - Have her spayed (_____)

Spaying

- Is a surgical procedure, which involves _____

- Usually performed at age six to seven months
- Result: _____

Neutering

- Involves _____
- Results: No longer shows interest in mating, tends to stay home, fights less, and lives much longer

Male Reproductive Organs

The _____'s (male cat) organs of reproduction are:

-
-
-

A male cat has two testicles that are suspended in a sac-like structure, the _____, outside of its body. The testicles _____ and _____ sperm, which is the seed that fertilizes the eggs produced by the female. _____, a hormone that is essential to the male's sexual development and activity, is also produced by the testicles. The prostate gland _____, which transports the sperm.

Copulation

- _____, the male mounts the female and inserts his penis into her vagina
- Ends after the male ejaculates _____ into the female's vagina
- Sperm in the seminal fluid then swim up through the vagina into the uterus and finally into the _____
- Oviduct where the sperm actually _____ the eggs

Female Reproductive Organs

The female cat's reproductive system consists of:

- _____
 - The _____ opening of the reproductive tract
 - The lips of the vulva are located just below the anus
- _____
 - A tube just inside the vulva
 - Where the male's penis will be during _____
 - The passageway for kittens being born
 - The location of the end of the urethra
- _____
 - The opening between the uterus and vagina
 - During pregnancy, it serves as a _____ between the sterile uterus and the outside world
 - Relaxes at birth and allows the kittens to enter the vagina
- _____
 - Tubular organ that is shaped like a "Y," the body being the bottom part of the Y and the horns the top part
 - Extends from the pelvis to the kidneys
 - Consists of a _____
 - It is in the horns of the uterus that kitten embryos are _____

- _____
 - Tiny tube that connects the uterus to the ovaries
 - The actual site where _____ occurs
- _____
 - A peanut-sized organ located near the kidneys
 - Where _____ are produced

Ovaries and the Estrous Cycle

- _____ control the estrous cycle
- Estrous cycle is the _____ followed by periods of time without sexual receptivity in the female
- Most distinct period is estrus, or heat, and this is the time of sexual receptivity or breeding
- Hormones _____ and _____ are made in the ovary during different stages
- Begins with the development of several follicles
- A follicle is a small fluid sac that will contain an _____
- Each follicle will grow and produce estrogen which is responsible for the “_____” or estrous behaviors of the female

Ovulation

- Is the _____
- _____ - ovulation occurs as the result of mating
- After ovulation, the follicle changes to form a _____ (CL)
- CL produces progesterone, which is a hormone needed to maintain pregnancy
- If the cat does not have kittens the CL will keep her “out of heat”
- When the CL quits producing progesterone, follicles will begin to grow, and another estrous cycle will begin

The cat is known as a seasonally _____ animal. This means she will have many estrous cycles only during certain times of the year. It is _____, or length of day, which controls the estrous cycle. Therefore, cats usually will not come into heat during the winter. They will wait until _____.

Cat Reproductive System Student Notes

– Answer Key

Cat Reproduction

A **queen**, or intact female cat, may:

- Produce two or three litters of kittens a year
- Go into heat, during which time they are interested in **mating** and can **conceive** (get pregnant)
- Mate with more than one male

In heat

- Periods of heat last a **few** days.
- **Rolling, stretching, rubbing, crying, and yowling** characterize a female cat in heat
- If the cat does not mate and conceive, the cycle will be **repeated** in a few weeks
- It is **possible** to prevent a female cat from becoming pregnant
 - Keep her in the house, isolated from any **tomcats** (unneutered males)
 - Have her spayed (**ovariohysterectomy**)

Spaying

- Is a surgical procedure, which involves **removal of the female reproductive organs**
- Usually performed at age six to seven months
- Result: **No longer interested in mating and she is unable to conceive**

Neutering

- Involves **surgical removal of the testicles**
- Results: No longer shows interest in mating, tends to stay home, fights less, and lives much longer

Male Reproductive Organs

The **tomcat's** (male cat) organs of reproduction are:

- **Penis**
- **Testicles**
- **Prostate gland**

A male cat has two testicles that are suspended in a sac-like structure, the **scrotum**, outside of its body. The testicles **produce and store** sperm, which is the seed that fertilizes the eggs produced by the female.

Testosterone, a hormone that is essential to the male's sexual development and activity, is also produced by the testicles. The prostate gland **produces seminal fluid**, which transports the sperm.

Copulation

- **When two cats mate**, the male mounts the female and inserts his penis into her vagina
- Ends after the male ejaculates **seminal fluid** into the female's vagina
- Sperm in the seminal fluid then swim up through the vagina into the uterus and finally into the **oviduct**
- Oviduct where the sperm actually **fertilizes** the eggs

Female Reproductive Organs

The female cat's reproductive system consists:

- **Vulva**
 - The **external** opening of the reproductive tract
 - The lips of the vulva are located just below the anus
- **Vagina**
 - A tube just inside the vulva
 - Where the male's penis will be during **copulation**
 - The passageway for kittens being born
 - The location of the end of the urethra
- **Cervix**
 - The opening between the uterus and vagina
 - During pregnancy, it serves as a **seal or barrier** between the sterile uterus and the outside world
 - Relaxes at birth and allows the kittens to enter the vagina
- **Uterus**
 - Tubular organ that is shaped like a "Y", the body being the bottom part of the Y and the horns the top part
 - Extends from the pelvis to the kidneys
 - Consists of a **body and two horns**
 - It is in the horns of the uterus that kitten embryos are **implanted and develop**
- **Oviducts**
 - Tiny tube that connects the uterus to the ovaries
 - The actual site where **fertilization** occurs
- **Ovaries**
 - A peanut-sized organ located near the kidneys
 - Where **ova or eggs** are produced

Ovaries and the Estrous Cycle

- **Ovaries** control the estrous cycle
- Estrous cycle is the **recurrent pattern of sexual receptivity** followed by periods of time without sexual receptivity in the female
- Most distinct period is estrus, or heat, and this is the time of sexual receptivity or breeding

- Hormones **estrogen** and **progesterone** are made in the ovary during different stages
- Begins with the development of several follicles
- A follicle is a small fluid sac that will contain an **egg**
- Each follicle will grow and produce estrogen which is responsible for the “**in heat**” or estrous behaviors of the female

Ovulation

- Is the **rupture of the follicle and release of the egg into the oviduct**
- **Induced ovulators** - ovulation occurs as the result of mating
- After ovulation, the follicle changes to form a **corpora leuta** (CL)
- CL produces progesterone, which is a hormone needed to maintain pregnancy
- If the cat does not have kittens the CL will keep her “out of heat”
- When the CL quits producing progesterone, follicles will begin to grow and another estrous cycle will begin

The cat is known as a seasonally **polyestrous** animal. This means she will have many estrous cycles only during certain times of the year. It is **photoperiod**, or length of day, which controls the estrous cycle. Therefore, cats usually will not come into heat during the winter. They will wait until **springtime**.

Lesson Four – Feline Reproductive System

REVIEW: Recap of Cat Reproductive System

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will do a review of what they learned about the cat reproductive system.

Materials:

- *Cat Reproductive System Worksheet*
- *Cat Reproductive System Worksheet – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Print/Photocopy the *Cat Reproductive System Worksheet*.
2. Distribute the worksheet to participants.
3. Have participants complete the worksheets and hand in for correcting.
4. Correct using the *Cat Reproductive System Worksheet – Answer Key*.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Reproductive System Worksheet

Match the female reproductive part with its corresponding name:

Oviducts (fallopian tubes)

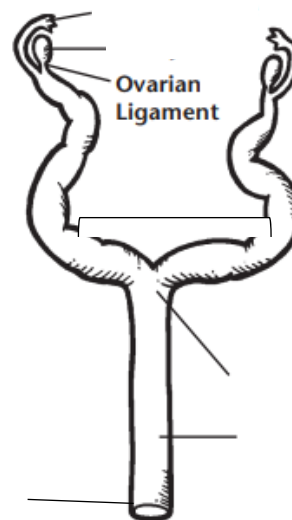
Ovary

Uterus

Cervix

Vagina

Vulva



Match the male reproductive part with its corresponding name:

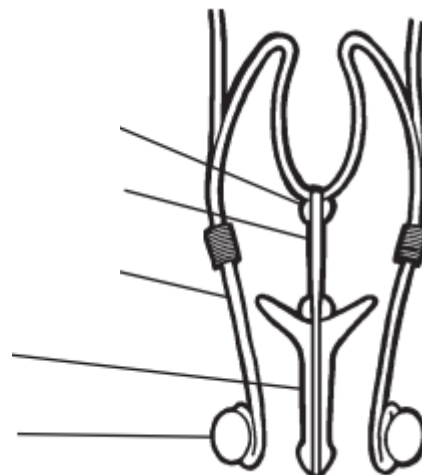
Testicles

Penis

Prostate gland

Spermatic cord

Urogenital canal



Fill in the blanks:

1. What is the technical term for spaying? _____

At what age can this be done? _____
2. Neutering a male cat is done by removing the _____. In addition to not producing kittens, a neutered male is less likely to _____, less likely to _____, less likely to _____, and may live longer.
3. Sperm fertilize the eggs in the _____. The fertilized eggs implant and develop in the _____ of the _____.
4. The three hormones involved in reproduction are _____, _____, and _____. The male hormone, _____, is essential to a male cat's _____. One female hormone, _____, is responsible for the _____ or _____ cycle. The other, _____, is needed to maintain _____.
5. What is the difference between estrous and estrus? Estrous is _____
_____. Estrus is _____.
6. A follicle is _____ that produces _____ and an _____. The follicle _____ to release the _____ into the _____. This process is called _____.

Cat Reproductive System Worksheet – Answer Key

Match the female reproductive part with its corresponding name:

Oviducts (fallopian tubes)

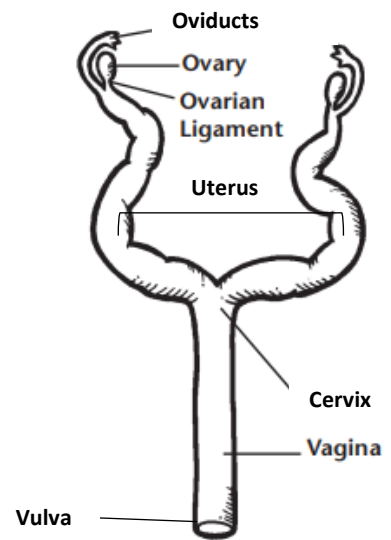
Ovary

Uterus

Cervix

Vagina

Vulva



Match the male reproductive part with its corresponding name:

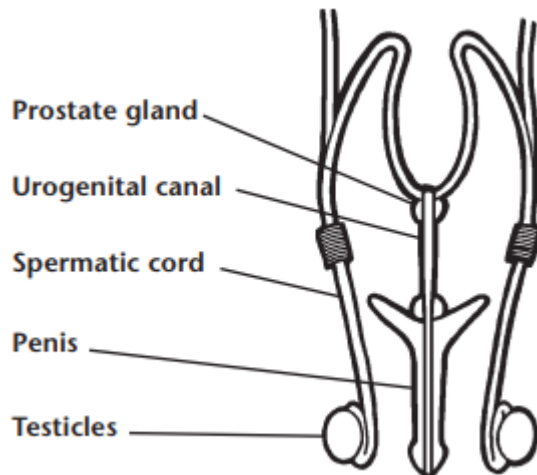
Testicles

Penis

Prostate gland

Spermatic cord

Urogenital canal



Fill in the blanks:

1. What is the technical term for spaying? **ovariohysterectomy**

At what age can this be done? **6-7 months**

2. Neutering a male cat is done by removing the **testicles**. In addition to not producing kittens, a neutered male is less likely to **roam**, less likely to **fight**, less likely to **mark territory**, and may live longer.
3. Sperm fertilize the eggs in the **oviducts**. The fertilized eggs implant and develop in the **horns** of the **uterus**.
4. The three hormones involved in reproduction are **estrogen, progesterone, and testosterone**.
The male hormone, **testosterone**, is essential to a male cat's **sexual development**. One female hormone, **estrogen**, is responsible for the **in heat** or **estrous** cycle. The other, **progesterone**, is needed to maintain **pregnancy**.
5. What is the difference between estrous and estrus? Estrous is **recurrent pattern of sexual receptivity followed by times without receptivity**. Estrus is **heat, the time of sexual receptivity or breeding**.
6. A follicle is **a small fluid sac** that produces **estrogen** and an **egg**. The follicle **ruptures** to release the **egg** into the **oviduct**. This process is called **ovulation**.

Lesson Five – Body Systems

Lesson Overview

Participants will learn basic information on how a cat's body systems function.

Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- List each body system a cat has
- Explain what each body system does
- Define “obligate carnivore”
- Explain how a cat's body processes food
- Define the number of bones a cat has in its body
- Describe what three actions the teeth do for a cat

Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	• <i>What's Under the Fur? Assessment</i> • <i>What's Under the Fur? Assessment – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>What's Under the Fur? Assessment</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes
LEARN	• <i>Body Systems of Cats</i> slide presentation • <i>Body Systems of Cats</i> worksheet • <i>Body Systems of Cat – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Body Systems of Cats</i> worksheet (one per participant). 2. Prepare the <i>Body Systems of Cats</i> slide presentation for viewing.	40 minutes
REVIEW	• Animal whiteboards • <i>Cat Body Systems Quiz</i> • <i>Cat Body Systems Quiz – Answer Key</i>	1. Gather animal whiteboards. 2. Print/photocopy the <i>Cat body Systems Quiz</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes

Lesson Five – Body Systems

FOCUS: Intro to the Body Systems of Cats

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn what they know about a cat's body systems by taking an assessment and grading it in class.

Materials:

- *What's Under the Fur? Assessment*
- *What's Under the Fur? Assessment – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Distribute the assessment and explain how to fill it out.
2. Give participants five minutes to complete this task before having them trade papers.
3. Go over the correct answers of the assessment as participants grade each other's work.
4. Collect the assessment.

Name: _____ Class: _____

What's Under the Fur? Assessment

1. Cats have 112 bones in their body. True or False
2. Cats have five different types of teeth. True or False
3. The heart is an involuntary muscle. True or False.
4. Bones are held together in two ways. True or False
5. An unusual habit cats have developed is the fact that, on average, they chew their food 12 times before swallowing. True or False
6. The small intestine is broken into three parts. True or False
7. The endocrine system is made up of glands that produce hormones. True or False
8. Five glands make up a cat's endocrine system. True or False
9. Short bones in a cat are shaped like cubes. True or False
10. The skeletal system consists of the bones, cartilages, and ligaments. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

What's Under the Fur? Assessment – Answer Key

1. Cats have 112 bones in their body. True or **False**
2. Cats have five different types of teeth. True or **False**
3. The heart is an involuntary muscle. **True** or False.
4. Bones are held together in two ways. True or **False**
5. An unusual habit cats have developed is the fact that, on average, they chew their food 12 times before swallowing. True or **False**
6. The small intestine is broken into three parts. **True** or False
7. The endocrine system is made up of glands that produce hormones. **True** or False
8. Five glands make up a cat's endocrine system. True or **False**
9. Short bones in a cat are shaped like cubes. **True** or False
10. The skeletal system consists of the bones, cartilages, and ligaments. **True** or False

Lesson Five – Body Systems

LEARN: Body Systems of Cats

40 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will watch a slide presentation while filling out a worksheet.

Materials:

- *Body Systems of Cats* worksheet
- *Body Systems of Cats* – Answer Key
- *Body Systems of Cats* slide presentation

Facilitation Steps:

1. Set up the slide presentation and distribute the worksheet.
2. Explain how to fill out the worksheet and begin the slide presentation.
3. Once the slideshow is complete, collect the worksheet.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Body Systems of Cats

Directions: Fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. _____?
2. _____
 - _____, _____, _____
 - The _____ all the _____ of the cat
 - _____
3. _____ of _____?
 - Their _____ can _____ in bones
 - _____ have the _____, while _____ have _____
4. _____
 - The _____ is made up of _____
 - Each _____ a _____
 - _____, _____ to _____, that _____ the _____
 - _____
 - They _____
 - _____ the _____ of the animal, _____ the _____, _____
5. _____?
 - The skeletal system is _____:
 1. _____
 2. _____ that _____
 3. _____ that _____

6. _____ the _____?

- _____ the _____
- _____ can be _____
- _____ those you control, such as _____
- _____ are those _____, such as _____

7. _____

- _____ are involuntary _____ organs
- _____ are involuntary muscles that _____
- _____ are voluntary _____ to _____ movement

8. _____ a _____?

- The _____ so that the _____
- When it comes to _____, cats _____
- In doing so, the _____ into _____

9. _____

- Cats are _____, which means they have _____ % _____
- Cats _____ because their _____

10. **Cat's Digestive System**

- The _____:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

- The beginning of _____ the _____, which _____ that _____:
- While _____, the _____ to _____
- As the _____ the _____, it is deposited _____ an _____ that contains _____ to _____
- The three digestive enzymes are _____, _____, and _____
- These _____ an _____ that _____ a _____
- This amount of acid _____ speed _____ bone and grizzly _____ your _____
" _____ "
- Once the _____ is _____, the sloppy, churned-up contents _____ the _____
- The _____ are _____
 - The _____ the _____
 - The _____ is _____ that _____
 - The _____ contents into _____
- The _____ - _____ that _____ the _____ the _____

11. _____ the _____?

- The _____ is _____

- _____ that _____
- There are _____ that _____ this _____

12. _____

- _____ the _____
_____ and _____
- _____ and _____

- _____ and _____

- _____ and _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Body Systems of Cats – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. **What Is Under That Fur?**

2. **Skeletal System**

- Consists of bones, cartilages, and ligaments
- The framework that supports and protects all the other body systems of the cat
- Cats have between 230 and 250 bones

3. **Why the Difference in Total Number of Bones?**

- Their gender and breed can explain the number range in bones
- Cats with long tails have the most vertebrae, while breeds that have no tails have the least

4. **Not All Bones Are the Same**

- The skeleton is made up of different shaped bones
- Each shape has a purpose
- Long bones provide support, similar to columns, that allow the animal to move
- Short bones are shaped like cubes and found in joints
 - They protect the body from friction and impacts
- Flat bones protect the organs of the animal, including the heart, lungs, and brain

5. **How Are Bones Kept Together?**

- The skeletal system is held together in three ways:
 1. Joints occur where two or more bones meet
 2. Ligaments are bands of connective tissue that keep bones together
 3. Tendons are thick bands that connect bone and muscle

6. **What Does the Muscular System Do?**

- Muscles allow the body to move
- Muscles can be either voluntary or involuntary
- Voluntary muscles are those you control, such as those in your hand that allow you to write
- Involuntary muscles are those you don't control, such as the heart

7. **Three Types of Muscle**

- Smooth muscles are involuntary muscles found in the walls of internal organs
- Cardiac muscles are involuntary muscles that makeup the heart
- Skeletal muscles are voluntary muscles attached to the bones and aid in movement

8. **How Does a Cat's Digestive System Work?**

- The digestive system breaks food down into small molecules so that the body can get nutrition
- When it comes to eating, cats swallow food in chunks
- In doing so, the digestive system needs to break food down into smaller pieces

9. **Obligate Carnivores**

- Cats are known to be obligate carnivores, which mean they have one chambered stomach and 70% of their diet is meat
- Cats have problems with vegetables and fruit because their bodies cannot process these foods

10. **Cat's Digestive System**

- The digestive system consists of:
 - Mouth
 - Tongue
 - Pharynx
 - Esophagus
 - Stomach
 - Small intestine
 - Large intestine
 - Anus
- The beginning of digestion starts with the mouth, which contains 30 teeth that serve three purposes: holding food, chewing food, and killing prey
- While in the mouth, the food is moistened with saliva to make it easier to swallow

- As the chewed food makes its way to the stomach, it is deposited into an environment that contains three digestive enzymes to break down protein
- The three digestive enzymes are pepsinogen, trypsin, and chymotrypsin
- These enzymes combined create an environment that contains 100 times more acid than a human's digestive system
- This amount of acid is needed to speed up protein breakdown and make breaking down bone and grizzly pieces easy while protecting your cat from "bad food"
- Once the food is broken down in the stomach, the sloppy, churned-up contents move into the small intestines
- The small intestines are broken into three parts
 - The duodenum alkalizes the stomach acid
 - The jejunum is covered with tiny microvilli that move the contents along while absorbing nutrients
 - The ileum moves contents into the large intestine
- The large intestine produces a mucous-based substance that quickens the transportation of waste to the rectum

11. What Does the Endocrine System Do?

- The endocrine system is made up of glands that produce hormones
- Hormones are chemicals that control different bodily functions
- There are four glands that create this system

12. A Cat's Glands and Their Uses

- Hypothalamus gland controls the pituitary gland and makes an antidiuretic hormone
- Pituitary gland makes amino acids and releases growth hormone
- Thyroid gland creates amino acids and encourages growth along with metabolism
- Adrenal gland makes amino acids and releases epinephrine and norepinephrine

Lesson Five – Body Systems

REVIEW: Cat Body Systems

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will review the body systems using animal whiteboards and then take a quiz over the material.

Materials:

- Animal whiteboards
- *Cat Body Systems Quiz*
- *Cat Body Systems Quiz – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Have participants pair up and distribute whiteboards to each group.
2. Explain how to use the whiteboards for review and give participants five minutes to do so.
3. Collect the whiteboards and distribute the quizzes.
4. Explain how to fill out the quizzes and give participants five minutes to do so.
5. Collect the quizzes.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Body Systems Quiz

1. There are four different glands that make up the endocrine system. True or False
2. Cats have 30 teeth that tear food into chunks. True or False
3. 20% of a cat's diet is from meat. True or False
4. Joints, ligaments, and tendons are the three ways bones are held together. True or False
5. There are three types of muscles, which include involuntary, voluntary, and stressed. True or False
6. The purpose of the long bones in a cat is to allow them to move. True or False
7. Cats have between 230 and 250 bones. True or False
8. A cat with a long tail has fewer bones in their body. True or False
9. Cats have five digestive enzymes that help break down their food. True or False
10. The small intestine is broken into four parts. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Body Systems Quiz – Answer Key

1. There are four different glands that make up the endocrine system. **True** or False
2. Cats have 30 teeth that tear food into chunks. **True** or False
3. 20% of a cat's diet is from meat. True or **False**
4. Joints, ligaments, and tendons are the three ways bones are held together. **True** or False
5. There are three types of muscles, which include involuntary, voluntary, and stressed. True or **False**
6. The purpose of the long bones in a cat is to allow them to move. **True** or False
7. Cats have between 230 and 250 bones. **True** or False
8. A cat with a long tail has fewer bones in their body. True or **False**
9. Cats have five digestive enzymes that help break down their food. True or **False**
10. The small intestine is broken into four parts. True or **False**

Lesson Six – Selection and Judging

Lesson Overview

Participants will learn how to select a feline that meets their needs and lifestyle along with how a cat show competition is held, the levels of competition, and what the ribbons mean.

Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- List questions one should ask themselves before adopting a cat
- Explain the pros and cons of owning a kitten
- Explain the pros and cons of owning an adult/senior cat
- Explain what the difference is between a pedigreed cat show and household pet competition
- Explain what goes on during a pedigreed cat show
- Explain what judges are looking for during a pedigreed cat show
- Explain what judges are looking for during a household pet competition
- Explain what an agility competition is when it comes to a cat show
- List the age a kitten can compete
- Define what a sexually intact cat is referred to as in cat competitions
- Define what a spayed/neutered cat is referred to as in cat competitions
- Describe what the ribbons represent in a cat show
- Explain how one can become a cat judge
- Define what a Grand Champion is when it comes to a cat show
- Define what a Grand Premier is when it comes to a cat show

Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	• <i>Selecting and Judging Cats Assessment</i> • <i>Selecting and Judging Cats Assessment – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy the <i>Selecting and Judging Cats Assessment</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes
LEARN	• <i>Selecting and Judging Cats</i> worksheet • <i>Selecting and Judging Cats – Answer Key</i> • <i>Selecting and Judging Cats</i> slide presentation	1. Print/photocopy the <i>Selecting and Judging Cats</i> worksheet (one per participant). 2. Prepare the <i>Selecting and Judging Cats</i> slide presentation for viewing.	40 minutes
REVIEW	• Cat Selection and Judging Poster • <i>Cat Selection and Judging Quiz</i> • <i>Cat Selection and Judging Quiz – Answer Key</i>	1. Display the Cat Selection and Judging Poster in the classroom. 2. Print/photocopy the <i>Cat Selection and Judging Quiz</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes

Lesson Six – Selection and Judging

FOCUS: Intro to Selection and Judging of Cats

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will test their knowledge of how to select a cat along with how judging is performed by taking an assessment.

Materials:

- *Selection and Judging of Cats Assessment*
- *Selection and Judging of Cats Assessment – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Distribute the assessment and explain to participants how to properly fill it out.
2. Give participants five minutes to complete the assessment and then have them trade papers.
3. Go over the correct answers as participants grade the papers and then collect the assessments.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Selecting and Judging of Cats

Assessment

Directions: Circle True or False for each question below.

1. Household cats (pets) are not judged at a cat show. True or False
2. The color of the cat is not something a judge looks at during a pedigreed show. True or False
3. To become a judge for a cat show, you simply take a written test and pay a fee. True or False
4. There is no agility competition for cats. True or False
5. A cat's personality is not something that is judged during a breed competition. True or False
6. A Premiership is a competition for pregnant cats. True or False
7. To be considered a Grand Champion, a cat must defeat 200 other champions in that breed.
True or False
8. Whether a cat is spayed or neutered is not a factor when it comes to judging cats. True or False
9. The age for kitten competitions is between four and eight months. True or False
10. How much time you have to groom your cat is something you should consider when selecting a feline companion. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Selecting and Judging of Cats

Assessment – Answer Key

Directions: Circle True or False for each statement below.

1. Household cats (pets) are not judged at a cat show. True or **False**
2. The color of the cat is not something a judge looks at during a pedigreed show. True or **False**
3. To become a judge for a cat show, you simply take a written test and pay a fee. True or **False**
4. There is no agility competition for cats. True or **False**
5. A cat's personality is not something that is judged during a breed competition. **True** or False
6. A Premiership is a competition for pregnant cats. True or **False**
7. To be considered a Grand Champion, a cat must defeat 200 other champions in that breed. **True** or False
8. Whether a cat is spayed or neutered is not a factor when it comes to judging cats. True or **False**
9. The age for kitten competitions is between four and eight months. **True** or False
10. How much time you have to groom your cat is something you should consider when selecting a feline companion. **True** or False

Lesson Six – Selection and Judging

LEARN: How Cats Are Selected for Pet and Cat Shows

40 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn about cat selection and judging by watching a slide presentation while filling out a worksheet.

Materials:

- *Selection and Judging of Cats* slide presentation
- *Selection and Judging of Cats* worksheet
- *Selection and Judging of Cats* – Answer Key

Facilitation Steps:

1. Set up the slide presentation and distribute the worksheet to participants.
2. Explain how to properly fill the worksheet out and begin the presentation.
3. Once the slideshow is complete, collect the worksheets.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Selection and Judging of Cats

Directions: Fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. _____
 - _____ your _____
 - _____ than older cats
 - _____ at _____ when deciding on a kitten or an adult/senior cat
 - _____ may be _____ a _____
 - _____ are _____ of rough handling
 - _____ the _____
 - _____ and _____, while _____
 - _____ the _____
 - If you live _____, an _____ would _____ as they are _____
 - _____?
 - While a _____ for a _____, they _____
 - If you _____ much, a _____
 - However, a _____
 - They will _____ until _____
 - _____? Do you have a lot of people over to your home?
 - _____ your _____ that _____ would be _____
 - _____? Will you _____ to _____?
 - _____?
 - _____
 - _____?
 - _____ want a _____?

- Do you want a _____ that is _____ the _____ for you or an _____?
- All of this is important to think about before adopting a pet
- _____ a dog?
 - _____ is important
 - _____ raised around dogs are typically wonderful _____
- _____ you have _____?
 - The _____ in that _____ about _____ - _____
 - If _____, there is typically _____
- _____ or indoors?
 - If you adopt a _____, then the _____
 - Beyond this, it is an _____ when it comes to _____

2. _____

- There are _____ that are _____
 - _____, which will _____ the _____
 - _____ and _____
- The _____ is _____
 - _____, but _____:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____/_____
 - _____/_____
- There is also an _____ that is _____
 - Cats are _____
- _____ the _____ your _____

3. _____
- When it comes to a _____, the _____
 - _____ for this type of cat show, you must have _____
 - Aspiring judges must _____
 - Once accepted, _____
 - They must also _____ with an _____
 - _____ the _____ a _____
 - A _____,
 - They judge _____ the _____ that _____
 - This can be _____, _____, or _____ if that is a _____
 - This _____

4. **How To Know Who Is Best in Breed**

- _____, a _____, _____, and _____
- Cats in _____ (_____), _____ (_____), _____ (_____)
- When _____, this _____ (_____) _____ (_____)
- Then the _____,
- _____ and _____

5. _____
- _____ is also _____ / _____
 - _____ is _____

- _____ is for those in a _____ that _____

- _____ is for those in a _____ that _____
_____/_____
- Another _____ (_____) is _____ to the _____

- _____, a _____
_____ that _____
- _____ be _____, a _____
_____ that _____

6. _____

- _____ a _____ in which a
_____ of the cat, its
_____, and whether it is _____ - _____
- _____ are _____, and they can _____

7. _____

- _____ that

_____, _____, _____, and

- This _____ " _____ "

Name: _____ Class: _____

Selection and Judging of Cats – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. How To Select a Cat as a Pet

- Know your experience level
 - Kittens require more work than older cats
- Consider who is at home when deciding on a kitten or an adult/senior cat
 - Young children may be rough with a kitten
 - Older cats are more tolerant of rough handling
- Think about the breed of cat
 - Some breeds love other animals and kids, while others dislike them
- Consider the type of home you have
 - If you live in a small apartment, an older cat would work out great as they are less active compared to kittens
- What is your work life like?
 - While a cat can entertain themselves for a while, they still need attention
- If you work a lot or are not home much, a kitten would not be advisable
 - However, a bonded pair of older cats would work
 - They will keep each other entertained until you get home
- What about your social life? Do you have a lot of people over to your home?
 - Doing your research on breeds that tolerate strangers would be an excellent idea
- What about grooming? Will you have enough time to groom your cat once per week?
- Do you have any preferences?
 - This can range from coat length to personality
 - Do you want a lap companion?
 - Do you want a playful friend?
 - Do you want a clingy pet that is waiting at the door for you or an independent soul?
 - All of this is important to think about before adopting a pet
- Do you have a dog?
 - Learning about dog and cat interactions is important
 - Cats raised around dogs are typically wonderful choices for families with canine companions
- Do you have another cat?
 - The same applies here in that learning about cat-to-cat interactions is important

- If cats are used to other cats, there is typically no problem
- Will your cat live outdoors or indoors?
 - If you adopt a declawed cat, then the answer should be indoors
 - Beyond this, it is an owner's preference and responsibility when it comes to outside feline care

2. How To Select a Cat for a Cat Show

- There are two general classes of cat that are shown
 - A pedigreed cat, which will have pedigreed standards for the breed
 - Household pet class includes pedigreed and non-pedigreed
- The household pet is not judged by breed standards, but by such things as:
 - Appearance
 - Grooming
 - Health/condition
 - Temperament/personality
- There is also an agility competition that is not breed specific
 - Cats are timed as they run an obstacle course
- Selection of a cat for a cat show depends on the type you plan to have your feline companion compete in

3. Pedigreed Cat Show Basics

- When it comes to a breed or pedigreed cat show, the process starts with the judges
- To be a judge for this type of cat show, you must have 10+ years of experience breeding that particular type
- Aspiring judges must apply to the judging program
- Once accepted, they must pass an examination on their breed and show ring mechanics
- They must also do additional training sessions with an experienced judge
- Cats of the same breed are displayed on a table with their owners
- A judge or judges walk around, looking at each cat
- They judge how close each cat comes to the ideal specification of that breed
 - This can be eye color, coat color, or personality if that is a breed trait
 - This information is recorded on paper

5. How To Know Who Is Best in Breed

- First, a judge breaks down the breed class into color, title-level or not, and sex group
- Cats in each group are ranked first (blue ribbon), second (red ribbon), and third (yellow ribbon)
- When judging color, this category is broken down farther into best (black ribbon) and second best (white)
- Then the overall breed is considered, regardless of color or sex
- Best in breed receives a brown ribbon and second receives an orange ribbon

6. **Breed Breakdown**

- Each breed is also broken down into age groups and whether they are spayed/neutered
- Kitten class is four to eight months of age
- Championship is for those in a breed that are sexually intact
- Premiership is for those in a breed that are spayed/neutered
- Another ribbon (purple) is given to the best champion or premier in class
- To be considered a Grand Champion, a cat must defeat 200 other champions in that breed
- To be considered a Grand Premier, a cat must defeat 75 other premiers in that breed

7. **Household Pet**

- Household pet is a cat competition in which a judge evaluates the personality of the cat, its condition, and whether it is well-groomed
- Merit ribbons are awarded, and they can either be red and white or solid green

8. **The Final Ribbon**

- Each judge presents a final rosette that represents their choice of top cat in Kitten, Championship, Premiership, and Household Pet
- This ribbon represents “Best in Show” from each judge

Lesson Six – Selection and Judging

REVIEW: Selection and Judging of Cats

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will review information by studying a poster. They will then take a quiz.

Materials:

- Cat Selection and Judging Poster
- *Cat Selection and Judging Quiz*
- *Cat Selection and Judging Quiz – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Display the poster up and instruct participants on how to use it for review.
2. After five minutes, take down or cover the poster and distribute the quiz to participants.
3. Provide directions on how to fill out the quiz.
4. Give students five minutes to complete quiz before collecting it.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Selection and Judging Quiz

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. When selecting a cat for your home, you should consider the other animals in the family. True or False
2. Kittens cannot compete in cat shows until they are a year old. True or False
3. Cats that are champions are not spayed or neutered. True or False
4. If a brown ribbon is given at a cat show, it means the cat is disqualified. True or False
5. To be a judge for a particular cat breed, you must have 10+ years of experience working with and breeding this type of cat. True or False
6. The type of home you live in is not an important factor when it comes to selecting a cat as a pet. True or False
7. During a pedigreed cat show, the breed standards are not considered. True or False
8. When a cat participates in an agility competition, they are judged on how well they run through the course. True or False
9. To be a Grand Premier, a cat must defeat 75 other champion premiers. True or False
10. When a breed is judged, the color of neither the coat nor the sex is considered. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Cat Selection and Judging Quiz – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. When selecting a cat for your home, you should consider the other animals in the family. **True** or False
2. Kittens cannot compete in cat shows until they are a year old. True or **False**
3. Cats that are champions are not spayed or neutered. **True** or False
4. If a brown ribbon is given at a cat show, it means the cat is disqualified. True or **False**
5. To be a judge for a particular cat breed, you must have 10+ years of experience working with and breeding this type of cat. **True** or False
6. The type of home you live in is not an important factor when it comes to selecting a cat as a pet. True or **False**
7. During a pedigreed cat show, the breed standards are not considered. True or **False**
8. When a cat participates in an agility competition, what is judged is how well they run through the course. **True** or False
9. To be a Grand Premier, a cat must defeat 75 other champion premiers. **True** or False
10. When a breed is judged, the color of neither the coat nor the sex is considered. True or **False**

Lesson Seven – Careers in the Cat Industry

Lesson Overview

Participants will learn career options available that entail working with domestic cats.

Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- List job responsibilities for occupations presented
- Discuss in detail one job participants have interest in
- List occupations that do not require a college degree
- List occupations that do require a college degree
- Explain certain skills that are required for cat industry jobs
- Explain why experience is important to many of the jobs presented

Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	• <i>Intro to Careers With Cats Assessment</i> • <i>Intro to Careers With Cats Assessment – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Intro to Careers With Cats Assessment</i> (one per participant).	10 minutes
LEARN	• <i>Careers in the Cat Industry</i> slide presentation • <i>Careers in the Cat Industry</i> worksheet • <i>Careers in the Cat Industry – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Careers in the Cat Industry</i> worksheet (one per participant). 2. Prepare <i>Careers in the Cat Industry</i> slide presentation for viewing.	40 minutes
REVIEW	• <i>Career Graphic Organizer</i> • <i>Careers in the Cat Industry Quiz</i> • <i>Careers in the Cat Industry Quiz – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy <i>Career Graphic Organizer</i> and <i>Careers in the Cat Industry Quiz</i> (one of each per participant).	10 minutes

Lesson Seven – Careers in the Cat Industry

FOCUS: Intro to Careers in the Cat Industry

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will test their knowledge on careers that entail working with cats by taking a quiz.

Materials:

- *Intro to Careers With Cats Assessment*
- *Intro to Careers With Cats Assessment – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Distribute the assessment and provide directions on how to fill it out.
2. Give participants five minutes to complete the assessment before having participants trade papers.
3. Go over the answers as participants grade the assessment.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Intro to Careers With Cats Assessment

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. All careers that entail working with cats require a college degree. True or False
2. A cat sitter takes care of cats for clients and is required to do housework such as wash windows and unload the dishwasher. True or False
3. To be a veterinarian receptionist, you do not need good people skills. True or False
4. Creating cat toys is not a career. True or False
5. Being an owner of a cat café requires feeding both humans and cats. True or False
6. A cat groomer is also referred to as a pet stylist and works with veterinarians and individuals. True or False
7. For an Animal Adoption Specialist, there is no requirement to have a college degree but must be able to be good with inputting data into a computer. True or False
8. Training domestic cats as a Cat Behaviorist or Whisper is not a real job. True or False
9. A cat videographer may work at animal shelters and for private clients. True or False
10. Gardening has nothing to do with any career that involves working with cats. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Intro to Careers With Cats Assessment – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. All careers that entail working with cats require a college degree. True or **False**
2. A cat sitter takes care of cats for clients and is required to do housework such as wash windows and unload the dishwasher. True of **False**
3. To be a veterinarian receptionist, you do not need good people skills. True or **False**
4. Creating cat toys is not a career. True or **False**
5. Being an owner of a cat café requires feeding both humans and cats. **True** or False
6. A cat groomer is also referred to as a pet stylist and works with veterinarians and individuals. **True** or False
7. For an Animal Adoption Specialist, there is no requirement to have a college degree but must be able to be good with inputting data into a computer. **True** or False
8. Training domestic cats as a Cat Behaviorist or Whisper is not a real job. True or **False**
9. A cat videographer may work at animal shelters and for private clients. **True** or False
10. Gardening has nothing to do with any career that involves working with cats. True or **False**

Lesson Seven – Careers in the Cat Industry

LEARN: Careers in the Cat Industry

40 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn about careers in the cat industry by watching a slide presentation and filling out a worksheet.

Materials:

- *Careers in the Cat Industry* slide presentation
- *Careers in the Cat Industry* worksheet
- *Careers in the Cat Industry* – Answer Key

Facilitation Steps:

1. Set up the slide presentation and distribute the worksheet to participants.
2. Provide directions on how to fill it out and begin the slide presentation.
3. Once the slideshow is complete, collect the worksheet from participants.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Careers in the Cat Industry

Directions: Fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. _____

2. _____
- Someone must _____ you find in stores
 - _____
but you _____ and

 - _____ include _____
_____ and _____
_____, whether _____
 - _____ on if _____

_____ the _____

3. _____
- _____
 - _____ but _____

 - _____ you
_____, _____ joining Rover
 - Rover is a _____ that _____
_____ to _____ for cat sitters
 - You can expect to receive _____ \$ _____ per hour
 - _____:
 - _____
 - Spending _____
 - _____

- _____ grooming

4. _____

- _____ but _____
- _____ with _____ offices
- _____ the _____
- _____ , _____ , and _____
- Annual _____

5. _____

- _____ but _____
- _____ and _____
- _____
- They _____ may _____
- Must know _____ and _____
- _____ salary: \$ _____

6. _____

- _____ but a

- Takes _____

- Must have _____
_____, _____,

- _____, _____,
- _____, _____,
- _____, _____
- May _____ a _____
 - _____
 - _____ is
 - _____ salary: \$ _____

7. _____
- The _____ of the _____, but the _____ expect to _____ \$ _____
 - _____ but must _____ cat _____
 - _____ include taking _____, _____ to customers
 - _____ is a _____

8. _____/_____
- _____ but _____
 - _____ and _____
 - _____ the _____ because this information will be used by a manufacturer
 - Must _____ in toy construction
 - _____ but _____ \$ _____

9. _____
- _____ - _____ degree and _____

- A _____
_____ care is _____ as a _____
_____, or a _____
- This type of _____,

_____/_____
- _____:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____/_____
 - _____ - _____
- _____ salary: \$ _____

10. _____

- Must be _____
_____ inside and outdoors
- Tasks:
 - Design _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____ and _____
 - _____
- Need to _____

- _____ and _____
- _____ but

- _____ salary: \$ _____

11. _____

- _____
- _____
- This job _____
_____ the _____

- They also _____ the

- Provides education _____ the

- _____ salary: \$ _____

12. _____

- _____ and _____
- Upon the cat parent and cat arriving, a

_____ and
make them _____
- Provide communication _____ the _____,
_____, and _____
- Must be _____, _____, and
an _____
- _____ salary: \$ _____
- _____ but

_____ a _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Careers in the Cat Industry - Answer Key

Directions: Participants will fill in the blanks with information from the slide presentation.

1. Careers for Those Who Love To Work With Domestic Cats

2. Catnip Grower and Dealer

- Someone must grow all the catnip you find in stores
- Does not require a college degree but you must have garden space and understand how to grow the herb
- Skills include understanding how to grow plants and process catnip for sale, whether fresh or dried
- Salary depends on if you grow for a cat toy manufacturer or sell your herb at the farmers' market

3. Cat Sitter

- No college degree required
- Experience is very important but so is insurance when it comes to this field
- To get clients and the protection you need, consider joining Rover
- Rover is a pet sitting service that pet parents use to set up appointments for cat sitters
- You can expect to receive an average of \$13.71 per hour
- Tasks:
 - Feeding and giving water to cats
 - Spending time with cats
 - Cleaning litter boxes
 - Taking cats to veterinarian appointments
 - Possibly doing light grooming

4. Cat Behaviorist or Cat Whisperer

- No degree required but having some college experience helps
- Must have lots of experience with cats in shelters and in veterinarian offices
- Join the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants
- Responsibilities include observing the cat and owner for negative behavior, working with both cat and owner to stop the negative behavior, and providing guidance in cat ownership

- Annual salary depends on experience

5. Cat Groomer

- No college degree required but training is available
- Works with veterinarians and individuals
- Considered a pet stylist for felines
- They wash and style the cat's fur to prevent health problems and may trim claws
- Must know how to properly handle a cat to keep them safe and happy
- Annual salary: \$44,056

6. Cat Photographer

- No college degree required but a portfolio is beneficial
- Takes pictures of cats for commercial and artistic purposes
- Must have experience using a camera, different lens, flashes, and other equipment to compensate for cat movement, weather conditions, and lighting
- May work in a studio or client homes
- Experience in photo enhancement software is important
- Annual salary: \$47,604

7. Cat Café Owner

- The salary of the owner depends on how successful the café is, but the barista can expect to make \$37,236 annually
- No college degree required but must understand cat behavior
- Responsibilities include taking care of cats, making sure they are treated nicely, and preparing and serving drinks to customers
- Knowledge of food service is a plus

8. Cat Toy Designer/Creator

- No degree required but must have a creative mind
- Understanding how cats hunt and what they like to hunt is helpful
- Having design skills on the computer is required because this information will be used by a manufacturer
- Must understand what is safe for felines in toy construction
- Salary depends on experience but can be as high as \$28.87 per hour

9. Veterinarian

- Requires pre-vet degree and then a degree in veterinarian medicine
- A veterinarian who specializes in cat care is referred to as a feline veterinarian, or a small animal veterinarian
- This type of veterinarian diagnoses, treats, and researches feline diseases/parasites
- Responsibilities:
 - Examining cats

- Giving shots
 - Operating
 - Spaying/neutering
 - Performing post-surgical exams
- Annual salary: \$102,816

10. Cat Videographer

- Must be good behind the camera and willing to work inside and outdoors
- Tasks:
 - Design the shoot
 - Transport the gear
 - Set up the gear
 - Operate the lighting and audio equipment
 - Edit the video
- Need to understand how to work with cats
- May work in shelters and for private clients
- No college degree required but experience is important
- Annual salary: \$49,097

11. Animal Adoption Specialist

- No college degree required
- Must love animals
- This job requires an individual to input information into the computer from prospective clients
- They also review applications to see if the individual is suited for pet ownership
- Provides education on how to take care of the newly adopted pet
- Annual salary: \$36,612

12. Veterinarian Receptionist

- Works with animals and their owners
- Upon the cat parent and cat arriving, a veterinarian receptionist will greet them and make them feel comfortable
- Provide communication between the doctor, assistant, and patient
- Must be organized, a good communicator, and an excellent recordkeeper
- Annual salary: \$52,503
- No college degree required but experience working with animals and people is a plus

Lesson Seven – Careers in the Cat Industry

REVIEW: Careers in the Cat Industry

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will use a career organizer to review cat industry careers. Once completed, participants will take a quiz.

Materials:

- *Career Exploration Graphic Organizer*
- *Careers in the Cat Industry Quiz*
- *Careers in the Cat Industry Quiz – Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Distribute the *Career Exploration Graphic Organizer* and provide directions on how to fill it out.
2. After five minutes, collect the graphic organizer and distribute the quiz.
3. Provide directions on how to fill it out and give students five minutes to complete it.
4. Collect the quizzes.

Career Exploration

Graphic Organizer

Compare careers working in the career cluster of Agriculture that relate to cats. Possible sources for information include your school library, public library, Bureau of Labor Statistics website, Occupational Outlook Handbook website, FFA, or other career-related websites on the internet.

CAREER: _____

Degree or license required	
Length of time to complete training or earn degrees	
Average starting salary per year	
Average hourly wage	
Job outlook	
5 skills needed for this job	
Describe the job setting	
What are the primary job duties?	
Do you work alone or with people?	
What needs or wants does this occupation fill?	

What is one thing an employer would expect from someone in this position?	
What kinds of people will be successful in this career?	

Name: _____ Class: _____

Careers in the Cat Industry Quiz

Directions: Indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. A cat videographer does not need a college degree but must have excellent writing skills. True or False
2. Being organized and having people skills is important for anyone who wants to be a veterinarian receptionist. True or False
3. If you want to own a cat café, you only need to worry about what cats eat. True or False
4. A cat groomer requires a college degree. True or False
5. A cat behaviorist or cat whisper only works with the cat owner. True or False
6. Insurance is not part of being a Cat Sitter. True or False
7. Knowing how to use a computer for design is not an important skill if you want to build cat toys for a living. True or False
8. Training is not required to be a cat whisper and there is no regulation as to who can provide this service. True or False
9. Cat photographers must have a college degree and a cat care license. True or False
10. A cat adoption specialist works with both prospective clients and cats to find the right match. True or False

Name: _____ Class: _____

Careers in the Cat Industry Quiz – Answer Key

Directions: Participants will indicate whether each statement is true or false.

1. A cat videographer does not need a college degree but must have excellent writing skills. **True** or False
2. Being organized and having people skills is important for anyone who wants to be a veterinarian receptionist. **True** or False
3. If you want to own a cat café, you only need to worry about what cats eat. True or **False**
4. A cat groomer requires a college degree. True or **False**
5. A cat behaviorist or cat whisper only works with the cat owner. True or **False**
6. Insurance is not part of being a Cat Sitter. True or **False**
7. Knowing how to use a computer for design is not an important skill if you want to build cat toys for a living. True or **False**
8. Training is not required to be a cat whisper and there is no regulation as to who can provide this service. True or **False**
9. Cat photographers must have a college degree and a cat care license. True or **False**
10. A cat adoption specialist works with both perspective clients and cats to find the right match. **True** or False

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