



Dear Caregivers:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our storytime. Please continue helping your child develop by sharing these at home!

CATS

LETTER OF THE DAY

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BOOKS TO SHARE

Lola Gets a Cat
by Anna McQuinn

Stack the Cats
by Susie Ghahremani

How to Be a Cat
by Nikki McClure

Cat Nap
by Toni Yuly

I Am a Cat
by Galia Bernstein

Kitten and the Night Watchman
by John Sullivan

The Bookstore Cat
by Cylin Busby

Bodega Cat
by Louie Chin

Ghost Cat
by Kevan Atteberry

Hats Are Not For Cats!
by Jacqueline Rayner

Cats Are A Liquid
by Rebecca Donnelly

FUN WITH FINGERPLAYS AND SONGS

Paws, Whiskers, Ears and Tails [action rhyme]
[Tune: "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes"]

Paws, [curl hands in front]
Whiskers, [make whiskers on sides of face; sign language for cat]
Ears [touch ears] and tails, [touch tail]
Ears [touch ears] and tails. [touch tail]
We'll lick our fur [pretend to lick]
and nap right here [hands together by side of head to pretend to sleep]
Paws, whiskers, ears and tails, ears and tails.
[repeat actions as before]

I'm A Little Kitty
[Tune: "I'm A Little Teapot"]

I'm a little kitty,
Soft and furry.
I'll be your friend.
So don't you worry.
Right up on your lap I like to hop.
I'll purr, purr, purr and never stop.

Soft Kitty [rhyme]

Soft kitty, warm kitty,
Little ball of fur.
Happy kitty, [name of color] kitty,
purr, purr, purr.

ASL SIGN OF THE DAY "Cat"



Pinch your thumb and index finger together by the side of cheek, while keeping your remaining fingers straight out, moving outward.

Kitty Cat, Kitty Cat

Kitty cat, kitty cat, sneaks out of the house.
Kitty cat, kitty cat, creeps up to a mouse,
And ... POUNCE!
Kitty cat, kitty cat, creeps up to a bird.
Kitty cat, kitty cat, is not even heard
And ... POUNCE!
But the mouse ran, and the bird flew away,
So kitty cat found a ball of yarn to play
And ... POUNCE!

If You're a Cat & You Know It [action rhyme]

[Tune: "If You're Happy and You Know It"]

If you're a cat and you know it, say, "Meow!"
If you're a cat and you know it, say, "Meow!"
If your a cat and you know it, and you really want to show it,
If you're a cat and you know it, say, "Meow!"
[verses: lick your paws, sharpen your claws, give a purr, swish your tail]

Five Little Kittens [fingerplay]

Five little kittens standing in a row.
[Stand all five fingers up on one hand]
They nod their heads to the children so.
[Bend your fingers in a "nod"]
They run to the left, they run to the right.
[Move hand/fingers to the left, then right]
They stand up and stretch in the bright sunlight.
[Stand fingers, stretching high]
Along comes a dog, who's in for some fun.
[Bring other hand out like a dog chasing]
M-e-oooow, see those kittens run!
[Have hand "run" behind back]

"When Cats Get Up in the Morning," Old Town School of Folk Music (2001)

MORE FUN!

D.I.Y. Cat Toy

If you don't have your own cat (or know someone who does), ask your local animal shelters if they would like a donation of these toys!

Supplies:

Scrap fabric/felt/fleece
String
Catnip
Scissors
Feathers (optional)

1. Cut a medium-sized square piece from your fabric (if you have them available, cutting edges with pinking shears helps prevent fraying).
2. Place catnip in middle of square (you can also add scrap fabric to make the toy fluffier).
3. Pull edges of fabric together and tie with length of string (knot as many times as possible to make toy more durable).

Even very young children can begin to understand some simple rules about how to behave around and with pets. Teach your child to remain calm, use gentle hands, and watch the pet's body language (example -- a cat's twitching tail means that they are feeling uncomfortable or annoyed).

Research how other languages mimic the sounds of cats, dogs, and other animals. For example, in English, we say things like "woof" and "meow," but in Spanish it is "guau guau" and "miau."

See if you can find audio clips of the proper pronunciation.



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