



Cats

by Laura Shallop



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT



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🔊 The boy has a cat for a pet.

🔊 A Fun Pet

🔊 A cat is a fun pet. Do you have a cat? Do you want a cat someday? This book tells you about cats. It tells you what a pet cat needs.



 The girl feeds her cat.

 A cat needs four things to **stay** healthy.

1. A cat needs food.
2. A cat needs water.
3. A cat needs a safe place to live.
4. A cat needs to run and play.



🔊 A cat eats food from a bowl.

🔊 **How to Feed Your Cat**

🔊 Some cats eat food that comes in a can. The **canned** food is wet. Some cats eat dry food. Cat food is made for cats. Cat food is not for dogs or birds.

🔊 Cats are **mammals**. A mammal is an animal that makes milk for its babies.

A group of baby kittens is called a **litter**. The kittens drink milk from the mother cat.

Some people give milk to adult cats. That is not a good idea. Milk from a cow can make a cat sick. Cats should drink water.

🔊 Don't Feed These Foods to Your Cat

Candy

Chocolate

Coffee or Tea

Grapes

Gum

Onions

Milk

Raisins

Salt

🔊 Be careful about the food you feed your cat!





coat

🔊 A cat likes to stay very clean!

🔊 **How to Clean Your Cat**

🔊 Cat fur is called hair. A cat has a **coat** of hair. A cat licks its hair every day because a cat needs a clean coat.



🔊 This cat has long hair. The girl uses a brush to keep her cat clean.

🔊 A cat has short or long hair. A cat with long hair may lick up some hair when it cleans its coat. The hair can make the cat sick. So a cat with long hair needs to be brushed.

🔊 **Hairy** cats may need a pet groomer. A pet groomer has an important job. A pet groomer cleans cats and dogs.



🔊 The vet checks the cat to find out if it is sick.

🔊 What to Do if Your Cat is Sick

🔊 You may not know if your cat is sick. A cat cannot talk! A sick cat may hide or be very quiet. If you think your cat is sick, take the cat to a vet. A vet is a doctor for animals.



cat cage

🔊 You can carry your cat in a cage.

🔊 Many cats do not like to take trips. They are afraid to ride in a car. You can use a special cage to carry your cat in a car. A cage is a good way to take a cat to the vet.



🔊 Cats like to play with toys.

🔊 Cats Need to Play

🔊 Cats love to play. You can give a toy mouse to a cat. First, the cat will jump on the mouse. Then the cat will chase the mouse. Then the cat will **chew** the mouse!

Cats also like to play in paper bags. They love to run fast. Playing is good for cats.



Give your cat a special place to scratch.

Cats Need to Scratch

Cats like to scratch things with their nails. That is how they keep their nails sharp. Cats use their sharp nails to hunt small animals. They use their nails to climb, too.

But cats can scratch the rugs and curtains in your house. You can buy a special post for your cat to scratch. Then your cat will not make a mess!



🔊 Cats are safe inside the house.


🔊 **Inside Cats**

🔊 Most pet cats stay inside. It is not safe to let a cat go outside. A big animal or a car can hurt a cat. But cats like to go outside. Cats love to smell the grass and watch birds fly. What can you do to help your cat?



 You can use a leash when you take your cat outside.

Outside Cats

 You can put a collar on your cat. You can **clip** a leash to the collar. Then you can walk outside with your cat! Your cat will get fresh air and be safe, too.



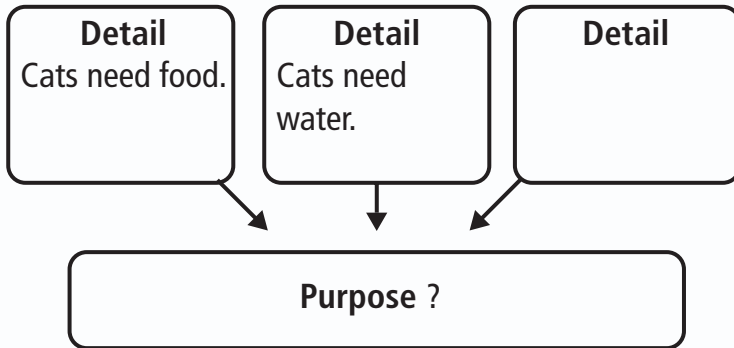
🔊 Cats need a lot, but they are great pets!
You can talk to people who have a cat. They
will tell you, “My cat is the best!”

Responding



TARGET SKILL Author's Purpose

What was the author's purpose in writing this book? Copy the chart and add another detail that helps tell the author's purpose. Then write the author's purpose.



Write About It

Text to Self What do you like best about cats? Do you like how they look or how they act? Write a paragraph. Tell what you like about cats.



TARGET VOCABULARY

canned
chews
clipped
coat

hairy
litter
mammals
stayed



TARGET SKILL

Author's Purpose Tell

why an author writes a book.



TARGET STRATEGY

Analyze/Evaluate Tell

how you feel about the text, and why.



GENRE

Informational text gives facts about a topic.

Level: L

DRA: 24

Genre:

Informational Text

Strategy:

Analyze/Evaluate

Skill:

Author's Purpose

Word Count: 580

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