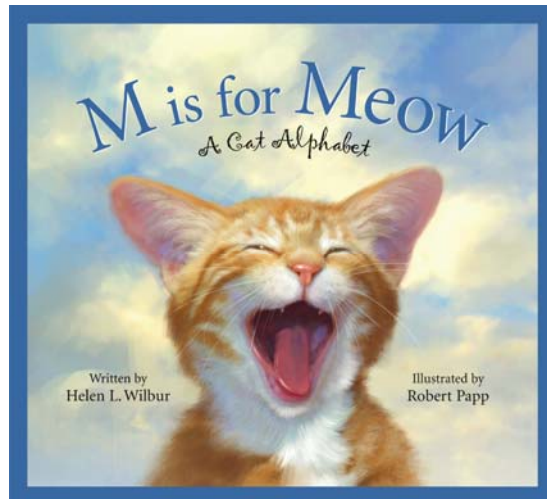


Teacher's Guide



M is for Meow: A Cat Alphabet

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Breeds, Breeds, Breeds

Alphabetical order

In *M is for Meow* you will learn that a “breed” is a group of cats with features that make them different from other groups of cats. You’ll also learn about many different breeds of cats.

Put these breeds in alphabetical order.

Singapura	Angora	Persian	Scottish Fold
Burmese	Siamese	Himalayan	Ragdoll
Abyssinian	Maine Coon		

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Name your favorite breed of cat _____

What's the Order?

Sequencing

Do you get ready for school the same way every day? Cats do! Cats have a specific order they always follow when they groom themselves. *M is for Meow* reveals all of the secrets of a cat's grooming habit.

Put these grooming steps in order.

_____ Cats munch at matted hair between their paws to remove dirt.

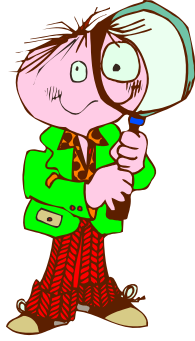
_____ Rub their wet paws over their head.

_____ Wash the tip of their tail.

_____ Lick their paws to moisten them.

_____ Groom legs and body.

How can you help a cat eliminate hairballs?



WHOSE CAT WAS IT?

Throughout history people have loved cats. *M is for Meow* will help you match each famous person with their cat!

1. Had a six-toed cat _____
2. This choreographer was an ardent cat lover _____
3. Whose cat was known as Master's Cat _____
4. Captain Flinders' favorite cat _____
5. Had a marmalade cat named Jock _____
6. Wrote *The Cat in the Hat* _____
7. Artist who created cat posters _____
8. Musician who wrote "The Cat's Fuge" _____
9. Muzza loved to sleep on this owner's sleeve _____

WORDS! WORDS!

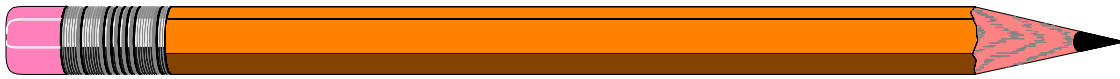
WORDS!

Throughout the book *M is for Meow* there are many scientific terms relating to cats. Read carefully to find the answers to the questions below.

Place a term from the box in each sentence.

Ailurophiles	panthernae	queen
<i>Felis catus</i>	vibrissae	Proailurus
tom	<i>Smilodon</i>	

1. cat lover _____
2. saber-toothed cat _____
3. species to which cats belong _____
4. big cats _____
5. a mother cat _____
6. name for cat's whiskers _____
7. a male cat _____
8. earliest known cat _____



Feline Crossword

M is for Meow is a fun, fact-filled book about felines. You will find all the information you need to complete this crossword as you search through the book.

F _____
E _____
L _____
I _____
N _____
E _____

1. This type of body makes a cat a good hunter _____
2. Ears on the outside are called _____
3. Because cats have _____ eyes they have a wide field of vision.
4. The number of lives a cat is said to have _____
5. Mother cats teach their kittens how to _____ with humans.
6. Young cats like to _____ the world around them.



Counting Cats

Enjoy learning about cats in the fact-filled book *M is for Meow*. Test your math skills on these cat word problems.

1. Two cats went out for a stroll. They met up with 10 more cats in the park. What was the total number of cat feet at this gathering?
2. One mother cat had 3 litters of kittens in one year. The litters contained 6 kittens, 8 kittens, and 4 kittens. How many total kittens did she have that year?
3. At a local cat show there were 15 different breeds of cat represented. Each breed had 7 entries in the show. How many cats competed in the show?
4. A cat has 24 whiskers. There are 20 cats at the vets. How many whiskers?
5. On a walk through the neighborhood Joe counted 15 houses with cats. Each house had 4 cats. He learned that 20% of the cats were white. How many white cats were there?



JUNGLE CATS

Did you know all cats came from a common ancestry? Learn about the creature that cats descended from in *M is for Meow*. Then discover some of the jungle cats throughout the book.

Circle all of the jungle cats in the box below.

Lion	Siamese	Raccoon	Cheetah
	Tiger		Ocelot
Jaguar		Burmese	Manx
	Persian		Leopard
		Maine Coon	

Which is your favorite cat? _____



Is This True?

Cats are complicated animals. Learn about some of their strange habits in *M is for Meow*. They are amazing animals.

Write T for true or F for false in front of each statement below.

- _____ 1. Stroking a cat can reduce blood pressure and release stress.
- _____ 2. Cats have lived with humans longer than any other animal.
- _____ 3. Everyone loves cats.
- _____ 4. There have been many books written about cats.
- _____ 5. Hairballs occur when cats have been out in the rain.
- _____ 6. Cats can see well in the dark.
- _____ 7. Kittens are born blind and deaf.
- _____ 8. People have a much better sense of smell than a cat.
- _____ 9. Cats purr when they are having kittens.
- _____ 10. Cats walk on the pads of their feet.



CREATE A CAT

Throughout *M is for Meow* you will discover all about cats. Read this enjoyable book and think about the things you do and don't like about cats.

Create your own "perfect" cat. Describe your creation and its behaviors. Name your cat.

Draw a picture of your new creation. It should be different from any other cat.

CATS ARE THE BEST!

Discover what makes a cat a special pet in *M is for Meow*.

Inside the cat below, write all the words you can find in the book that make a cat special. You can even add some of your own thoughts.



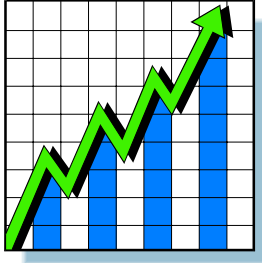
The Many Moods of Cats

Cats are certainly interesting creatures. Did you know you can learn a lot about the mood of a cat by watching its body language? Learn about this unique language of cats in *M is for Meow*.

Draw a picture of a cat showing fear. Remember to show all of its body language.

Draw a cat showing anger.

Draw a cat showing friendliness.



Survey and Graph

Discover fascinating facts about cats and kittens in *M is for Meow*.
Write one new fact you learned from the book.

Survey another class to find the data you need for your graph.
Question: What is your favorite animal?

CAT

DOG

OTHER

Use your data to make a bar graph showing the results. Make sure you label your graph and make it colorful and easy to read.

ONOMATOPOEIA

Onomatopoeia is a word that says its own name. For example a cow moos.

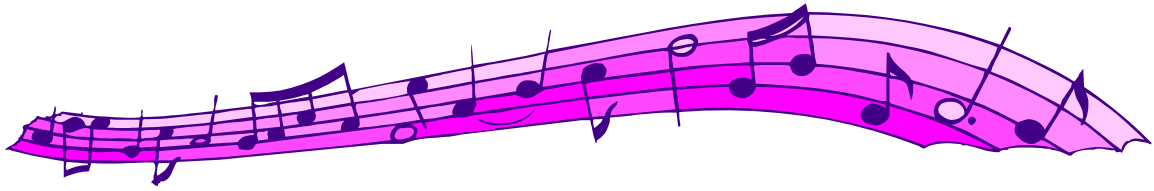
Many of the sounds and habits of cats are words that show onomatopoeia. Make a list of those words after you read the book *M is for Meow*.

Use as many of these words as you can to write and illustrate a poem about cats.

Help Save the Cats

Many agencies throughout the world work to save abused and homeless cats. Research information about their efforts in *M is for Meow*.

Make a poster asking for support for your local animal rescue agency.

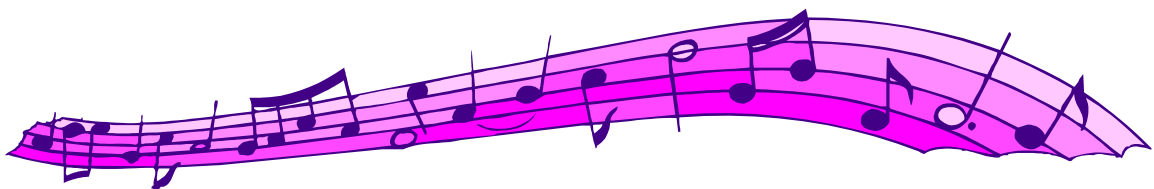


Do the Jungle Cat Rap

Jungle cats don't make very good pets. They aren't domesticated, which means they are wild and shouldn't live in a home with people. But what is more magnificent to see than a male lion standing in the wild? The book *M is for Meow* has information about jungle cats.

Choose a jungle cat and create a rap about it.

Practice your rap and then perform it for your class. You may want to do this with a partner or two.





I Am a Rhyming Cat

It's fun to find rhyming words. Learn all about those fabulous animals called CATS in *M is for Meow*.

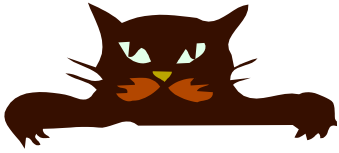
How many points can you score by thinking of words that rhyme with cat?

1 point each
3-letter words

3 points each
4-letter words

5 points each
5 or more letters

Total points



VS.
Venn Diagram



M is for Meow is a wonderful book full of information about cats. Use this information and your prior knowledge about dogs to make a Venn diagram comparing cats and dogs. How are they alike? How are they different?

Write a paragraph describing your favorite pet.

M is for Meow Answer Key

Breeds, Breeds, Breeds- 1) Abyssinian 2) Angora 3) Burmese 4) Himalayan
5) Maine Coon 6) Persian 7) Ragdoll 8) Scottish Fold 9) Siamese 10) Singapura

What's the Order- 5, 2, 4, 1, 3

Whose Cat Was It- 1) Ernest Hemingway 2) George Balanchine 3) Charles Dickens
4) Trim 5) Winston Churchill 6) Dr. Seuss 7) Theophile Steinlen 8) Domenico
Scarlatti 9) Mohammed

Did You Know- 1) ailurophiles 2) *Smilodon* 3) *Felius catus* 4) panthernae
5) queen 6) vibrissae 7) tom 8) Proailurus

Feline Crossword- 1) flexible 2) external 3) large 4) nine 5) interact 6) explore

Counting Cats- 1) 48 2) 18 3) 105 4) 480 5) 12

Jungle Cats- lion, tiger, leopard, jaguar, ocelot, cheetah

Can It Be True- 1) T 2) F 3) F 4) T 5) F 6) F 7) T 8) F 9) T 10) F