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## Cats

If you consider yourself a “cat” person, you’re not alone! Domestic cats rank among the most popular pets. Did you know that jaguars, lions, and tigers are also members of the cat family? Do you know the difference between a Siamese cat and a Persian cat? Let’s find out!

First, go to **www.worldbookonline.com**

Then, click on “Kids.” If prompted, log on with your ID and Password.

Since this activity is about cats, you can find the answers by using the “Search” tool to search the key word “cat.”



### True or False?

*Start by reading the article. Then read the statements below and decide if each statement about cats is true. Write T next to the statement that is TRUE. Write F next to the statement that is FALSE.*

(T) True, (F) False

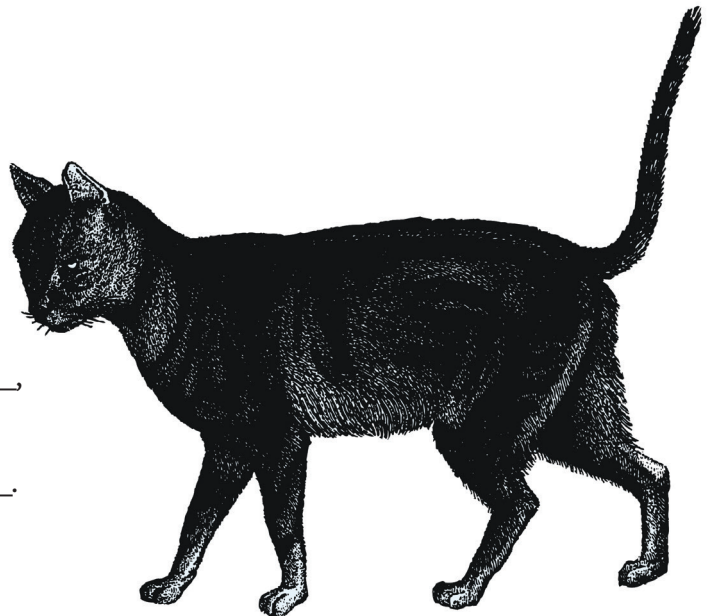
1. \_\_\_\_\_ Cats are small mammals.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ The term *cat* refers to such animals as jaguars, lions, and tigers.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Domestic cats descended from wild cats that lived in America.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ People began to keep cats as pets about 500 years ago.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Some breeds of cats have short fur, such as the Siamese.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Most cats weigh from 16 to 25 pounds.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ A cat can twist its body so that it almost always lands on its feet.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Cats have toes that end in sharp, hooklike claws.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Cats can smell better and hear better than people.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ A cat’s eyes have mirrorlike parts that help them see in dim light.

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## Find It!

*Find the answers to the questions below. You may start by searching the key word "cat."  
Write the answers below each question.*

11. Why did cats start living around people?
12. How fast can a cat run?
13. What do cats use their claws for?
14. How does a cat keep itself clean?
15. What does it usually mean when a cat purrs?
16. What does it mean when a cat hisses, growls, and screams?
17. How can you tell if a cat wants to play?
18. How can you tell if a cat is angry?
19. A female cat is called a \_\_\_\_\_,  
and a male cat is called a \_\_\_\_\_.





20. Can cats eat dog food? Why or why not?

21. When does a kitten become an adult?

22. How long do most cats live?

## What's the Word?

Use the "Search" tool to find the definitions of the words below. You can also find the definition of almost any word on the World Book database by double-clicking on it!

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| _____ 23. Domestic   | A. A sound made by a cat or kitten when it's lonely or hungry. |
| _____ 24. Breed      | B. The long, stiff hairs growing near a cat's mouth.           |
| _____ 25. Crossbred  | C. Fur that forms a ball in a cat's stomach and makes it sick. |
| _____ 26. Whiskers   | D. The place where cats go to the bathroom.                    |
| _____ 27. Meow       | E. Tame; not wild.   |
| _____ 28. Purr       | F. A group of animals having the same type of ancestors.       |
| _____ 29. Litter box | G. A low, murmuring sound a cat makes when happy.              |
| _____ 30. Hairball   | H. A mixture of different breeds.                              |

## Watch It!

Within the World Book cat article, you will find the video "WB Explains: Cat Playing."  
Watch the video and answer the following questions.

31. What is the cat playing with in the video?

32. What size toy do cats prefer, according to the video?

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## Draw it!

*Within the World Book article Cat, you will find an image called “Coats of Cats.”  
Choose one of the coats and color in the cat below.*

I choose to color (circle one):

Solid coat

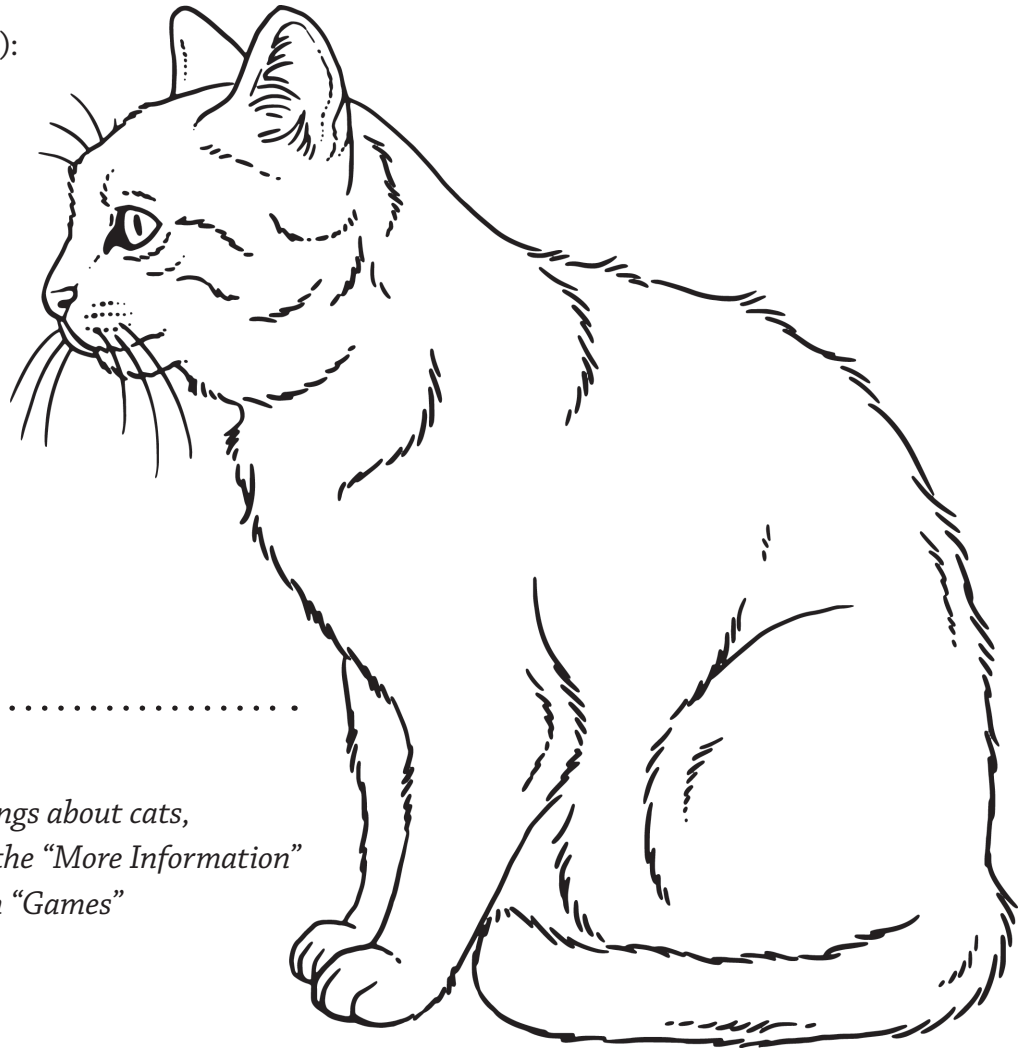
Smoke coat

Shaded coat

Tabby coat

Parti-color coat

Colorpoint coat



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## Play It!

*Now that you know some things about cats,  
let's play some games! Go to the “More Information”  
tab in the cat article. Click on “Games”  
and show off your skills!*

## Read more about cats in World Book's eBook collection:

*Persians and Other Long-haired Cats.* Chicago: World Book, 2015. Animals of the World. *World eBook*. Web. 15 Dec. 2015.  
<<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/ebooks/mall/instt/catalog/urn:ISBN:978-0-7166-3038-8/detail.do>>.

*Siamese and Other Short-haired Cats.* Chicago: World Book, 2015. Animals of the World. *World eBook*. Web. 15 Dec. 2015.  
<<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/ebooks/mall/instt/catalog/urn:ISBN:978-0-7166-2985-6/detail.do>>.

# Teacher Page

## Answers:

1. T
2. T
3. F (Asia and Africa, not America)
4. F (5,000 years ago, not 500)
5. T
6. F (6 to 15 pounds)
7. T
8. T
9. T
10. T
11. Cats probably began to live around people to feed on rodents.
12. Cats can run as fast as 30 miles (48 kilometers) per hour.
13. Cats use their claws for defense and catching small animals.
14. A cat licks itself to keep clean and to get rid of fleas.
15. Purring sometimes means the cat is happy. But some cats purr when they are sick, too.
16. Hisses, growls, and screams mean anger or fear.
17. If a cat wants to play, it might roll over on one side and wave its paw.
18. An angry cat flicks its tail from side to side, lifts its back, and puffs up its fur.
19. A female cat is called a queen. A male is called a tom.
20. No. Dog food does not provide the right diet for cats.
21. A kitten becomes an adult cat when it is about 1 year old.
22. Most cats live 12 to 15 years.

- 23. E
- 24. F
- 25. H
- 26. B
- 27. A
- 28. G
- 29. D
- 30. C
- 31. The cat is playing with a toy made out of a box.
- 32. Cats prefer to play with mouse-sized toys.

### **Draw It!:**

Pictures will vary. Use the “Coats of Cats” image in the “Cat” World Book article to determine if a student understands the correct color pattern.