



## SHARING YOUR FOSTERING EXPERIENCE

---

Millions of people will add a new pet to their family this year. When families choose to adopt a pet from a shelter or a rescue group, they are helping to save the lives of homeless pets. Because you've fostered a pet, you're a perfect person to educate others on why they should adopt and here are some of the benefits of adopting a cat:

- **Adopting a cat helps save a life.** Adoption provides a loving home to a pet in need and frees up space for another pet to be rescued.
- **You can adopt a cat who's already fully grown.** Having an active, playful kitten can be a lot of work. Adult cats may be more laid-back, already know how to use a litter box and already know to not scratch the furniture.
- **You can adopt a kitty who's right for your family.** If your household is busy, active and loud, an active and playful cat or kitten might a good match. If your household is quiet and slow-paced, a lap cat who enjoys napping might be the best match. Staff members at shelters and rescue organizations routinely take the time to get to know their adoptable cats, so they can be a big help to you in finding a cat who fits your lifestyle.
- **Buying online or from a pet store is expensive and risky.** Adopters save money because adoption costs are usually less than buying an animal from a pet shop or website. Plus, the adoption fee usually includes spay/neuter surgery, vaccines and microchipping. And by adopting, you don't risk supporting commercial kitten mills, which often sell inhumanely bred pets online and through pet stores.
- **Animals of all breeds, shapes, ages and sizes are available.** Just because animals end up at a shelter or with a rescue group doesn't mean there is anything wrong with them. They just need a second chance.

Please read the following information and [watch the video](#) our amazing cat specialist, Samantha, has just created for you.

## ACTIVITY

**Download** our activity sheet on cat adoption.

## CREATE

**Watch a step-by-step lesson** on how to paint a rainbow of cats.

Don't have paints? Use crayons, chalk art, markers, or cut out colored paper.

Other activities to try:

- Circle all the things your foster cat or kitten loves to do: snuggle, sit in laps, follow people, hide, climb, chase toys, lie in the sun, purr, bump heads with you, sleep on or near you, meow, lick, play with other cats, groom other cats, stalk around mysteriously, crawl in boxes, give you long affectionate blinks, strut, put her paw on your nose, knead her paws against you like she's making biscuits or wake you up.
- Circle all the words that describe your foster cat or kitten. Here are some adjectives to get you started: chill, fun, energetic, clever, confident, charming, friendly, affectionate, loyal, athletic, mischievous, brave, funny, gentle, quiet, fearless, faithful, peaceful, amusing, cheerful, wise, patient, easy going, determined, suave, zealous, shy, cautious, talkative, fun, happy, alert, mellow, intelligent and thoughtful.

## READ

Curl up with your foster cat and your favorite book. If she's shy, try quietly sitting in the room and softly reading your book. It might encourage her to come out and explore. Do you want to read a new book? Check your school or local library for the following titles.

*It's Raining Cats and Cats!* by Jeanne Prevost, illustrated by Amelia Hansen

*The Forgotten Rabbit* by Nancy Furstinger, illustrated by Nancy Lane

## PLAY

Create an agility course that you and your friends can do. Then see if your cat wants to give it a try. Just make sure everyone takes turns doing the obstacle course, so you don't run into your friends or your cat!

Some things to try:

- Lay a broom over two chairs so you can crawl under it.
- Balance a hula hoop between two chairs so you can crawl through it.
- Line up soup or cat food cans with enough room for you to weave through.
- Use an ottoman or a bench as an obstacle that you must go around.

When you want your cat to give it a try have all the humans sit still and put cat treats out on each area. Watch and observe!

## SHARE

Create a virtual adoption poster to help attract possible adopters and encourage more people to adopt and foster. Post on social media **(with the permission of your parents or guardians)**. Use the hash tags **#BFFosterCamp** **#BFFamilyFun** to help spread the word.

Be sure to include:

- What's beautiful about her fur
- What her eyes say to you
- What's her favorite game to play
- What her personality is like

When creating your poster and introducing your foster cat to the world be sure to include some of this information:

My foster cat's name is \_\_\_\_\_ .

She is \_\_\_\_ years/months (circle one) old.

She loves to \_\_\_\_\_ during the day.

Her favorite thing to do at playtime is \_\_\_\_\_. Her fur is extra special because it is \_\_\_\_\_. Her eyes are a beautiful color of \_\_\_\_\_ and it reminds people of an \_\_\_\_\_.

She often looks like she's thinking about \_\_\_\_\_.

She wishes she had a home where she could get lots of \_\_\_\_\_.

She connects with people who are very \_\_\_\_\_.

If you are not able to share it on social media, print it out and share with your friends, around school or at your local library. If you do post it on social media use **#BFFosterCamp** and **#BFFamilyFun**.

**Thank you for participating in Best Friends Foster Pet Camp! You're a lifesaving rock star!**



**#BFFPetCamp**