

Cat Depot, Inc. & Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida

## Cat Depot Pets Badge Program

# Troop Leader's Guide

*Brownie Level Requirements*



**cat depot®**

The Resource for  
Rescue, Adoption, and Education

Cat Depot  
2542 17<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sarasota, FL 34234  
941-366-2404  
[EDUCATION@CATDEPOT.ORG](mailto:EDUCATION@CATDEPOT.ORG)



## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### Brownie Girl Scout Level

#### Program Description

The Cat Depot Pet Badge Program is designed for Girl Scouts at the Brownie Level. The girls do a variety of age-appropriate activities to teach them about being responsible pet people. All activities will be completed at home or during troop meetings; or in conjunction with the virtual program with the Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida. Troops may schedule a virtual tour to fulfill some of the badge requirements. To schedule a tour please contact the education department at 941-366-2404 ext. 312 or email [education@catdepot.org](mailto:education@catdepot.org). Tours will be pre-recorded unless otherwise stated, and planned in advance. Please schedule at least one month in advance. Patches/badges are issued through the Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida. Please contact your local Girl Scout chapter for more information.

#### What is Cat Depot?

Cat Depot is a free-roaming adoption and education center recognized for excellence and leadership in finding homes for more than 17,000 homeless and abandoned cats and kittens. Many of the cats and kittens brought to Cat Depot are surrendered by their owners. Who can think of a reason why someone might have to give up their pet? Sadly, dozens of kitties are left at Cat Depot by their owners each week. Cat Depot takes good care of all the cat and kittens in their care and works very hard to find them new families to adopt them and give them a loving, life-long home.

**Our mission is to save lives, find loving homes, and provide resources and education to improve the destiny of homeless cats.**





## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### Brownie Girl Scout Level

#### How to earn the Girl Scout Brownie Pet Badge:

Brownie Girl Scouts must complete five categories: Pet Needs, Pet Comfort, Pet Health & Safety, Pet Love, and Feed A Pet. Earning the Brownie Pet Badge can be done even if the child does not own a pet. They will also have the opportunity to tie in a community service project with the badge work. While a visit to an animal shelter is typically strongly encouraged, due to COVID-19 all in-person shelter group tours have been suspended. Girls can schedule an individual tour/visit (with their guardian) during select hours or the troop leader may schedule a virtual tour through our education department.

**Pet Needs:** Find out what care different pets need. While all animals need food, shelter and love, some require less attention than others.

**Pet Comfort:** Just like humans need a bed, so do cats and dogs. This is an opportunity to make pet beds for your pets at home or in a shelter. Please contact us to learn more about what kinds of pet beds best suit our needs.

**Pet Health & Safety:** If girls have pets at home, this can be an easy way to make sure their families are following pet protocols. For girls who do not have pets at home, it is important to meet with an animal shelter representative to learn about the guidelines every pet owner should follow and how the animals in the shelter are cared for.

**Pet Love:** This is an opportunity to make a pet feel loved by making toys and donating them to pets in need. Please contact us to learn more about toy safety and how you can help.

**Feed A Pet:** For girls who have pets at home, it is important for every family member to follow a strict feeding schedule. And more importantly, they should have a feeding schedule prepped and ready for pet-sitters when going out of town. For girls without pets at home, donating wet or dry pet food to shelters is a great way to make sure pets everywhere are getting enough food.

**Complete the attached activities and use them to guide your troop discussions on pet care, health and safety, and pet ownership.**





## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### **SIX FOODS I PROMISE TO NEVER FEED MY PET...**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_



Did you know...one of the most common ways that pets are poisoned is when people give them medicine meant for humans? Medicines such as acetaminophen (like Tylenol), ibuprofen (like Advil), and NSAIDs (like aspirin and Aleve) are safe for people, but could make a dog or cat VERY sick!

Got to: <http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/poison-control/> and find the phone number for the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center.

Write the phone number here:

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Animal Poison Control Center**

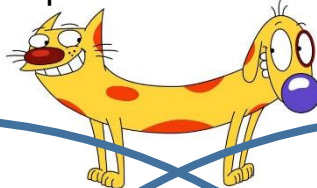


## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### What kind of care does my pet need?

Fill in the blanks with things different pets need. In the middle, write what all pets need.

**Cats**



**Dogs**

**Litter Box**

---

---

---

---

---

**Food**

**Water**

**Shelter**

---

---

---

---

---

**Leash / Harness**

---

---

---

---



## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program





## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### How to make a no-sew pet blanket



#### Supplies:

- Fleece Material  
(generally 1 pattern and 1 solid are best)
- Scissors

#### Instructions:

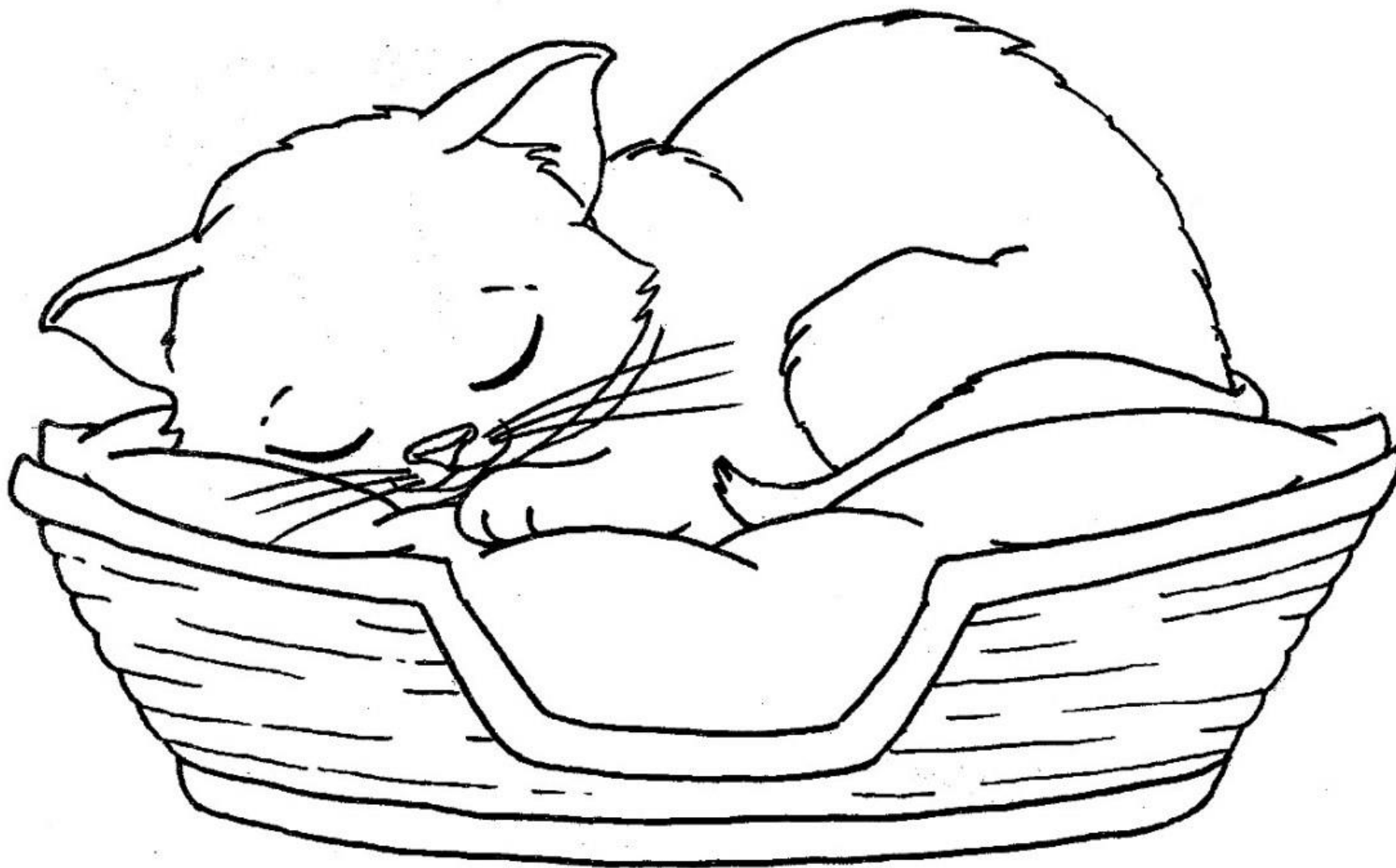
1. Cut 2 pieces of fleece material that measure out to 2 ft. x 2.5 ft. each.
2. Line up the 2 pieces on top of each other.
3. Cut a 3-inch square from each of the four corners.
4. Cut fringe on all four sides of the blanket. Cut through both layers of fabric at the same time. Fringe pieces should be a little wider than the width of your finger. Cut in from the edge 3 inches. Lay a ruler across the fabric, 3 inches from the edge so that you know how far in to make your cut.
5. Begin Tying Knots. Leave your blanket lying flat on the surface, with all fringes lined up. These knots are called balloon knots... tie them just like you would if tying off a balloon! You can also tie a knot like you would make with a shoe lace. Tie all the fringes together on all four sides of the blanket.







## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program





## **Cat Depot Pet Badge Program**

**How Should We Behave Around Animals?**  
**Members of the troop should take turns acting out the scenarios below.**

### **Activity #1: A Cat Runs and Hides**

#### **Scenario #1**

Cat: Is walking around the house.  
Child #1: Sees cat and chases after her.  
Cat: Hisses, runs into the corner and hides.  
Child #1: Continues to approach cat.  
Cat: Pretends to scratch child.

Ask the audience: Was this the right or the wrong thing for the child to do? How do you think the cat felt? Explain that an animal may bite when they are scared, when they feel cornered. The best thing we can do is to respect how they feel and leave them alone if that's what they want.

#### **Scenario #2**

Cat: Is walking around the house.  
Child #2: Approaches the cat slowly, holding her hand out.  
Cat: Sniffs hand, then rubs up against the child. The cat walks away.  
Child #2: The child says, "looks like she's had enough" and walks away.

Ask the audience: Was this the right or the wrong thing for the child to do? How do you think the cat felt? The child did the right thing. Just like us, sometimes animals like to be left alone. Maybe the cat just wanted to be by herself. It shows kindness and compassion to respect an animal's feelings.



## **Cat Depot Pet Badge Program**

### **Activity #2: A Dog Is Eating His Food**

#### **Scenario #1**

Dog: The dog is eating her food.

Child #1: Walks over to the eating dog and playfully pretends to take the food away.

Dog: The dog growls angrily at the child.

Ask the audience: Was this the right or the wrong thing for the child to do? Why do you think the dog reacted that way? Explain that dogs like to protect things. What does protect mean? It means to keep something safe. What else might a dog protect? Her puppies, toys, owner, home, yard, a bone, etc. Does this make dogs mean? No! It is normal dog behavior. We have to respect that.

#### **Scenario #2**

Dog: The dog is eating her food.

Child #1: The child notices the dog, but keeps on walking.

Dog: The dog looks at the child but continues to eat.

Ask the audience: Was this the right or the wrong thing for the child to do? The best thing to do if you see a dog protecting something is to leave him alone. A dog, even your own dog, might bite if she thinks you are trying to take something valuable away from her. The smart thing to do is to keep on walking!



## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### Activity #3: A Cat Is Sleeping

#### Scenario #1

Cat: The cat is sleeping soundly, curled up in a ball on the floor.

Child #1: Walks over to the cat and puts her hand on the cat's side shaking the cat, waking her up suddenly.

Cat: The cat jumps up, hisses, and arches her back. She lets out a loud g-r-r-r-r-r-r-owl.

Ask the audience: Was this the right or the wrong thing for the child to do? Just like us, dogs and cats sleep and dream. If an animal is peacefully asleep and then is suddenly woken up, the animal might be confused and scared, and they might not recognize you right away. There is a chance that they might bite.

#### Scenario #2

Cat: The cat is sleeping soundly, curled up in a ball on the couch.

Child #2: The child, in another room, decides to play with the cat.

She walks in the room and sees the cat sleeping on the couch.

The child say to herself, "I would really like to play with Kitty right now, but I see that she is sleeping. I will come back later".

Ask the audience: Was this the right or the wrong thing for the child to do? Learning about the natural behaviors of our dog and cat friends will allow us to stay safe around them and to appreciate them more. They will appreciate us more too!



## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### Things We Need In Common With Our Pets!

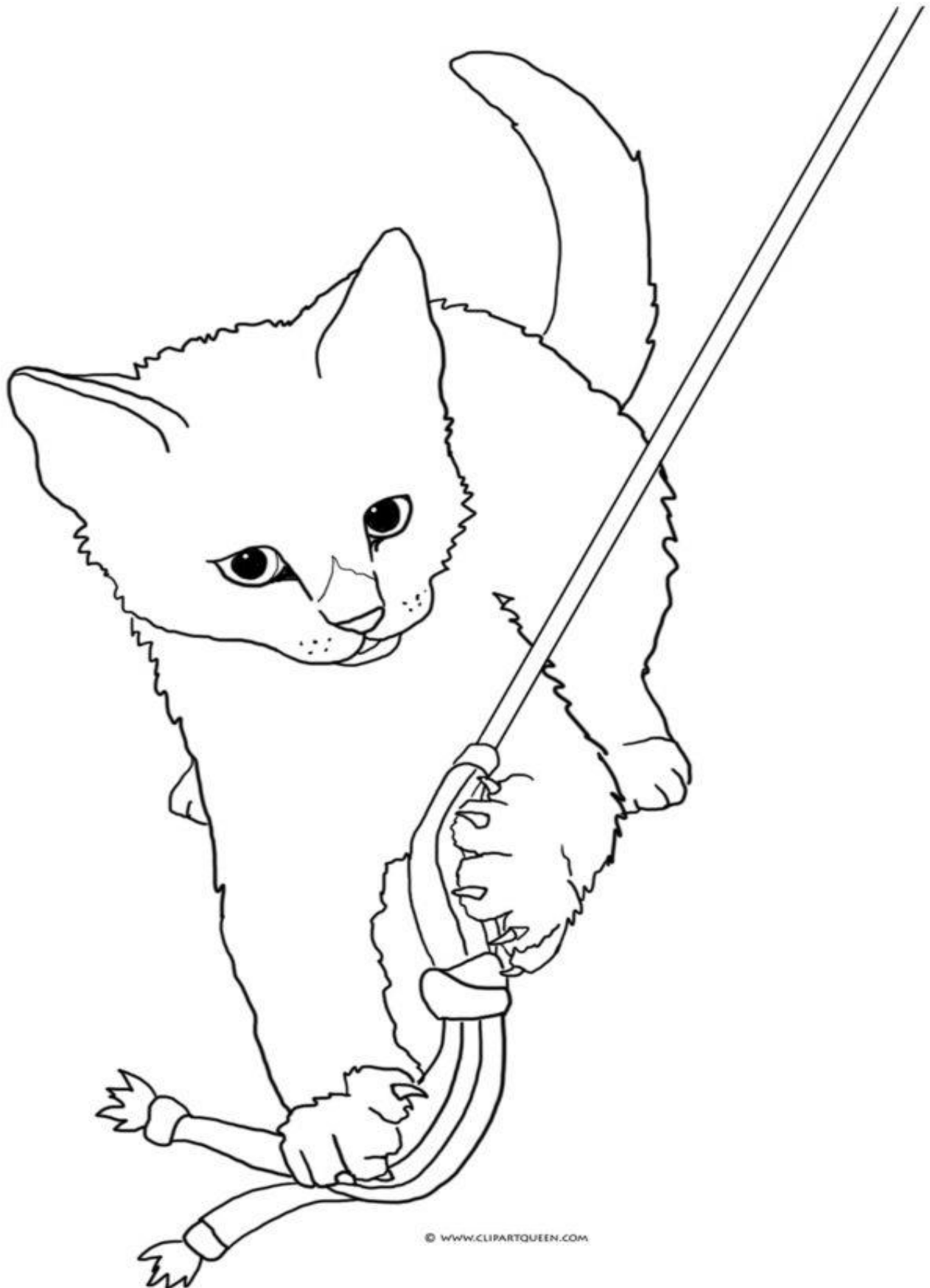
You may be surprised to realize just how much we have in common with our pets. We need many of the same things! Below is a list of NEEDS. Place an "X" in the box under ME if the need is something you need. Place an "X" in the box under MY PETS if the need is something pets need. How many of these needs do we share with our pets?

NEEDS	ME	MY PETS
Exercise for a healthy body		
To go to the doctor for check-ups and shots		
Fresh, clean water each day		
Healthy food each day		
A clean, safe place to live		
A safe space to play		
A loving family		
Regular dental cleanings		
Daily grooming / bathing		
Safe and fun toys		



Can YOU help make sure your pets get all of the things they need?

## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program





## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### How to make a braided fleece pet toy



#### Supplies:

- Fleece Material  
(generally 1 pattern and 1 solid are best)
- Scissors

#### Instructions:

1. To get started, grab three colors of fleece scraps. Cut one, long strip of each fabric. If you have a small cat, then cut them about 1 inch wide, for a big cat, do about 1.5 inches wide.
2. About 2 inches from the top, tie all three strips together with a single knot.
3. Now braid the strips together until you get about 2 inches from the bottom.
4. Then knot it again where the braid ends.



## Donations Wish List

Cat Depot is a nonprofit organization that relies on donations to care for the thousands of animals we receive each year.

- 😊 **Monetary Donations**
- 😊 **Dry Cat Food**
- 😊 **Wet Canned Cat Food**
- 😊 **Mother and Baby Cat Dry Food**
- 😊 **Cat Litter**
- 😊 **Empty & Clean Purina Tidy Cat Litter Tubs**
- 😊 **Cat Toys**
- 😊 **Interactive Cat Feeders**
- 😊 **Cleaning Supplies** – paper towels, dishwasher soap, laundry detergent, disinfecting wipes
- 😊 **COVID-19 Supplies** – gloves, facemasks, hand sanitizer

**Thank you for your support!**

**Cat Depot  
2542 17th Street  
Sarasota, FL 34234  
941-366-2404  
Catdepot.org**



## Donations Wish List

Cat Depot is a nonprofit organization that relies on donations to care for the thousands of animals we receive each year.

- 😊 **Monetary Donations**
- 😊 **Dry Cat Food**
- 😊 **Wet Canned Cat Food**
- 😊 **Mother and Baby Cat Dry Food**
- 😊 **Cat Litter**
- 😊 **Empty & Clean Purina Tidy Cat Litter Tubs**
- 😊 **Cat Toys**
- 😊 **Interactive Cat Feeders**
- 😊 **Cleaning Supplies** – paper towels, dishwasher soap, laundry detergent, disinfecting wipes
- 😊 **COVID-19 Supplies** – gloves, facemasks, hand sanitizer

**Thank you for your support!**

**Cat Depot  
2542 17th Street  
Sarasota, FL 34234  
941-366-2404  
Catdepot.org**





## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### Pet Feeding Schedule

**Pet Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pet Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Breakfast							
Morning Treats							
Morning Medicine							
Dinner							
Night Treats							
Night Medicine							

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

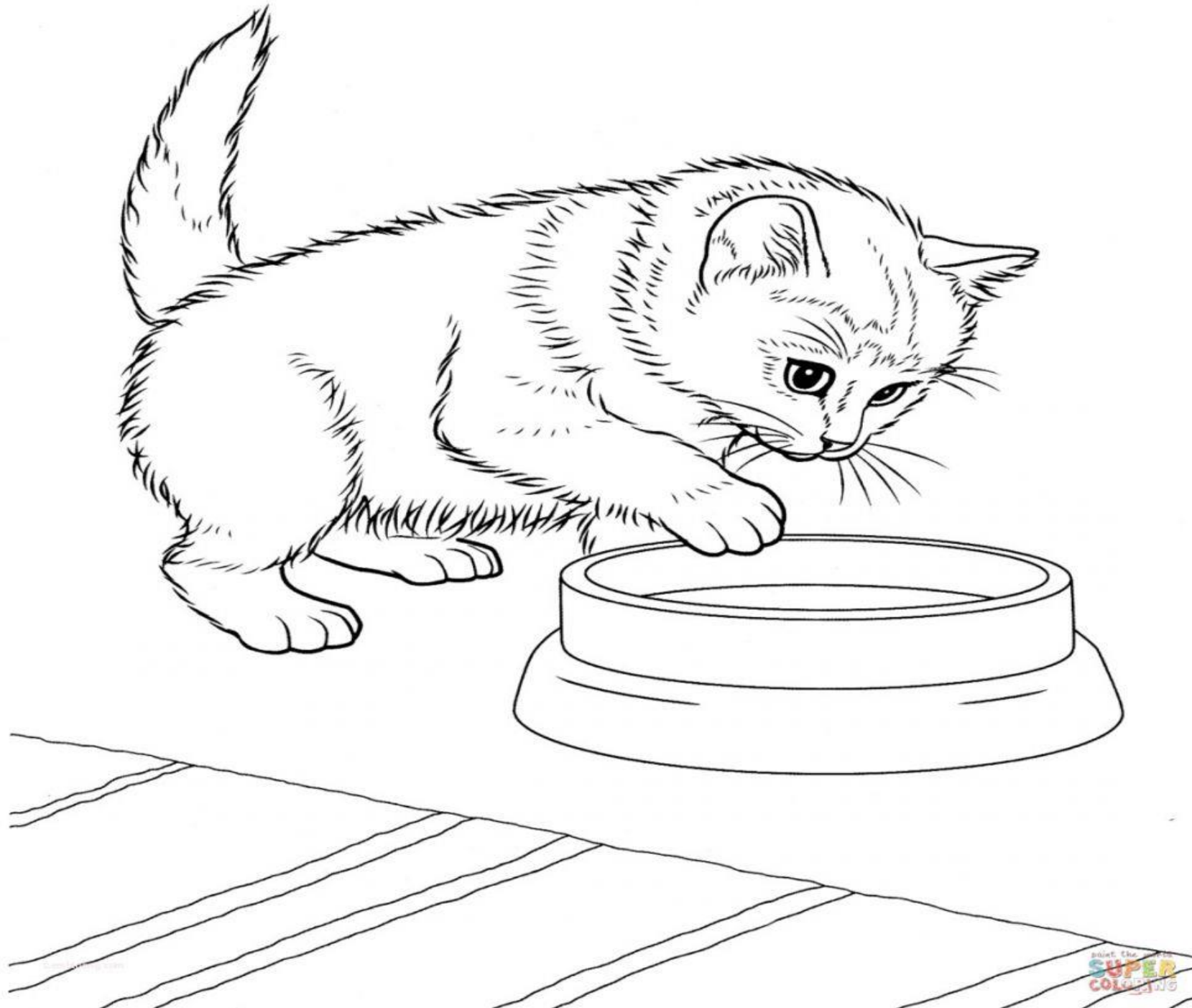
---

---

---



## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program





## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

### How to make homemade cat treats



#### Supplies:

- Your Cat's Food
- Microwave-safe Plate or Cookie Sheet
- Knife or Pizza Cutter
- Blender, Food Processor or Coffee Grinder
- Water
- Mixing Bowl
- Spoon

#### Instructions:

\*All homemade cat treats that have been baked should be stored in the refrigerator no longer than 5-7 days to maintain their freshness and prevent spoilage.

#### Cat Treats from Canned Cat Food:

1. Open the can and shake the loaf of cat food out of the can.
2. Cut the loaf into  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick slices, and then cut the slices into bite-sized pieces.
3. Bake the cat treats in the microwave oven on high for approximately 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 minutes.
4. For a conventional oven, follow the instructions above and place the bite-sized pieces on an ungreased cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees for approximately 30 minutes or until crispy. Flip the triangles and bake for another 15 minutes.
5. Let cat treats cool completely before serving to your cat.

#### Cat Treats from Dry Cat Food:

1. In a blender, add 2 cups of dry cat food and grind into powder.
2. Pour powder into a mixing bowl and gradually about 1 to 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  cups of water, stirring until it forms into dough consistency.
3. Shape into individual "treats" or "cookies" and flatten the dough using the back of a spoon (the cookies will not flatten like standard people cookies do).
4. Place cat treats on an ungreased cookie sheet and bake in the oven at 350 degrees for approximately 30 minutes or until crispy. Do not freeze homemade cat treats.



## Cat Depot Pet Badge Program

**Quiz: Pet Badge**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1. What are 3 things all pets need?**

---

---

---

**2. Cats and Dogs need a bed just like humans.**

**Circle: True / False**

**3. How often should you take your pet to the vet?**

---

**4. What is one way you can show your pet love?**

---

**5. Name one thing you should feed your pet and one thing you should NOT feed your pet.**

**You should feed your pet** \_\_\_\_\_.

**You should NOT feed your pet** \_\_\_\_\_.

**6. How can you help pets in animal shelters?**

---

**7. What was your favorite activity you did to complete this badge?** \_\_\_\_\_