

KATS' TALES

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HOW YOUR CAT CAN BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT

By Allison Espiritu

Summer is here, the weather is still warm, and we tend to find ourselves outdoors and less likely to be at home. This may be easy for some, but for those with a pretty kitty, we need to make sure to keep them cool, calm, and collected, even in the sunniest weather. **Preventing Sunburns:** Just like humans, cats who are white or pale in color or are more likely to burn quick, especially on their ears, nose and areas with little to no fur. This also makes them more susceptible to skin cancer. To prevent short and long term effects of the sun, remember to keep your feline friends indoors between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; this is when the sun is beating down on us the strongest. But if there's no telling your cat to stay indoors in the summer heat, pick up a pet-friendly sun block from your local vet or use non-toxic waterproof human sunscreen. **Avoiding Heatstroke:** Hydration is key! Make sure there is always clean water available and accessible for your cat. Knowing the early signs of heat exhaustion is important too. If your cat collapses, is panting excessively or dribbling, it's time to move them to a cooler place, dampen their coat, and contact your veterinarian as soon as possible. **Traveling Safely:** When traveling with your cat in a car, make sure the windows are open, that they are not sitting in direct sunlight, and it's most important never to leave them alone. But if you plan to travel abroad by plane or by train with your fancy feline, it's important to ask your vet what vaccinations they may need to get a pet passport and to stay happy and healthy during your trip.

(Source: <http://blog.theanimalrescuesite.com>; retrieved 7/18/2014)



Look at this very sweet boy! His name is Max. He is one-in-a-million...get it...Max-a-million. He is a very big boy, and has a beautiful tawny long-haired coat. Max is flame point Siamese. He seems shy at first, but he loves to be petted and combed. When you do, he purrs and comes forward and head butts your face and gives it a little love lick. He has blue eyes that are...you guessed it, a bit crossed. Max would need a quiet, gentle home. Come meet him!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nothing scheduled at this time, but we **REALLY** are in need of more volunteers for morning duty, adoption counseling, and help with fundraising. If you can help, call the number above, leave your name & number, and we will call you!!

HOW DO I HELP MY FEARFUL CAT FEEL SAFE AND SECURE?

By Marilyn Krieger

Encourage your cat to feel safe. After her room is set up, the work begins. Depending on the cat's level of insecurity, one person may have to be designated as her buddy and earn her trust. Other family members can start interacting with her after she starts feeling secure. The key to help her overcome her fears is ensuring she has positive experiences around people. Whenever anyone enters her room, something needs to happen that she likes. If she is a foodie, then every visit needs to include treats or meals. If she is a player, then entice her with novel toys. *An effective method for working with traumatized and highly insecure kitties is sitting on the floor a distance away and reading out loud. Children's books are perfect, because people's voices become melodic and softer when reading them. *Consistency will help these little ones feel secure. Keep a schedule —feed her every day at the same time. If she likes to play, then dedicate specific times every day to playing. Entice her by rubbing treats on the toys. Clean litter boxes and visit her on a schedule. The more visits the better. The environment also needs to be consistent. Don't move cat furniture or change the locations of the litter boxes or feeding stations. *Never corner or pet a cat against her will. Instead, encourage her to feel safe with treats and toys. She should always have the choice of coming forward or retreating. *Always reinforce your kitty when she does behaviors that show she's starting to feel safe. Because there are different degrees of insecurity, her behavior may be as subtle as peeking out from under a bed or as blatant as asking for strokes and pets. Reinforcers are things and activities the cat loves. *Clicker training is an effective tool for helping kitties fears. It's fun, stimulating, and gives them the choice of participating. It's also a great way to reinforce any behavior that is a step toward the goal of her feeling insecure. It also works well for desensitizing cats to scary sounds as well as other frightening events. Keep in mind, you are on the cat's schedule. It may take days, weeks, or longer until she feels safe enough to join the rest of the household.

(Source: [Catster.com](http://catster.com); newsletter; October 23, 2015; retrieved 10/27/15)

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Did you know.....A cat's IQ is only surpassed by chimps and monkeys in the world of animals. (I always suspected that!)

OUR MISSION STATEMENT The purpose of the Kingdom Animal Shelter is to facilitate the placement of stray and unwanted animals and pets in desirable homes; to establish and maintain an animal shelter and associated procedures that promote health, care and handling; and to prevent overpopulation and the prevention of cruelty to animals. The animals in our care, our guests, are never euthanized merely because we lack space or because the animal's stay with us has exceeded a predefined amount of time.

Please forward this to your friends, family, co-workers, or anyone interested in supporting our shelter. If you no longer wish to receive emails from Kingdom Animal Shelter, please hit "Reply" and change the subject line to UNSUBSCRIBE. Kingdom Animal Shelter respects your privacy and will never share or sell your email address or other information.