

Here's Looking at You, Kids!

Youth Feature: Teagan

As part of a Girl Scout Silver Award project, Teagan worked hard to make 15 handmade toys and 23 blankets for our shelter animals. This is what our community needs - passionate young women and men who seek to help those in need. Way to go Teagan! We love seeing your dedication and passion shine through. Keep on inspiring others to follow your lead. Featured in the photo with Teagan is shelter pup Poochie, who was adopted on September 20th.



• • • Adoptable Animal Awareness Cards • • •



Collect four animal cards and win a prize!

Layla is a three-year-old mixed breed who loves to stay active! She enjoys adventuring outdoors for runs, hikes, and trips to the beach. In her spare time she plays dress up and loves to catch peanut butter flavored bubbles out of the air. Layla is our longest shelter resident and has lived at the VBSPCA since June, and she is eagerly awaiting the day her forever family adopts her.

Bring four animal cards to the VBSPCA to claim your prize.



VBSPCA.COM

3040 HOLLAND RD. VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

VBSPCA

VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

PAWSITIVE PRESS

A Newsletter For Kids



Pets Love Play

Fun Facts About
Black Cats



Fall Reading Challenge

September 1st - November 30th

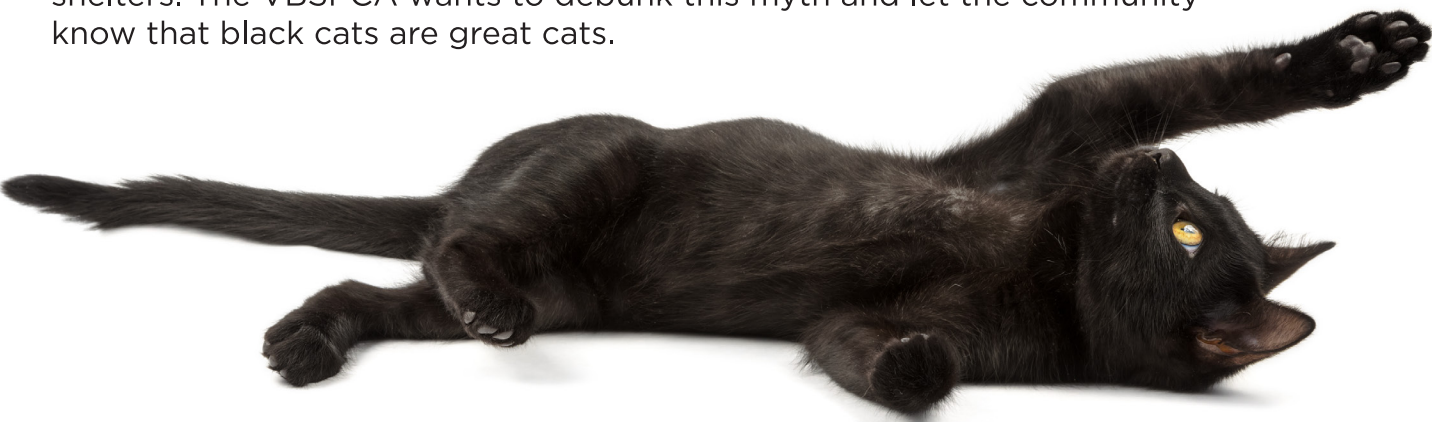
COMPLETE
READING CHALLENGES
AND WIN PRIZES

The More You Read, The More You Win!
Visit vbspca.com for details.



Fun Facts About Black Cats

One of the most popular symbols of October and Halloween is the black cat. These felines are often associated with being the bearers of bad luck, especially during the month of October. Unfortunately this reputation can lead to longer stays in animal shelters. The VBSPCA wants to debunk this myth and let the community know that black cats are great cats.



It is not bad luck if a black cat crosses your path

This is just a superstition that began in the Middle Ages. This quickly spread throughout the region and found its way into legends and belief systems, and some cultures still believe it to this day.

Black cats are superheroes

They are believed to live longer due to generations of genetic mutations which increase fitness and longevity.

Black cats can change colors

Or so it seems! If a black cat has a tabby stripe gene in their DNA, the sunshine will reveal stripes previously hidden in their fur and they will appear a rusty brown color instead of black. Mysterious indeed!

Black cats make great companions

The Virginia Beach SPCA also believes that the black cat’s best superpower is being a great companion. Many VBSPCA staff members have adopted a house panther into their homes and can attest to the special companionship they provide as well as their quirky personalities. However, the best way to beat the superstition is to find out for yourself. Stop by the VBSPCA and meet some of our finest, most mysterious, feline companions.

Scavenger Hunt

This season, we take our scavenger hunt outdoors and invite you to turn nature into art! Collect natural items and create your own animal inspired masterpiece. For example, you could use seashells, sticks, pine cones, or leaves. Then, take a photo and submit it to humaneeducation@vbspca.com by December 1st and we will share the masterpieces with our community.



PETS LOVE PLAY



All mammals, including humans, need play to live a happy and healthy life. Play helps the brain learn new things while also making your body strong. Learn about ways in which different animals like to play below!

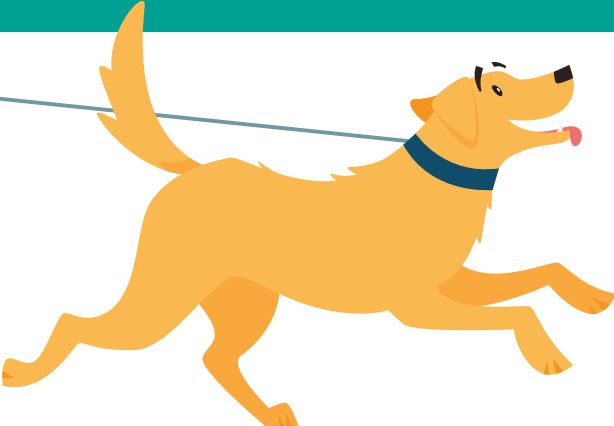
Dogs are typically very social animals who love to play in groups. You can often see them running with their “pack” and playing games of tag, just like kids.

Cats build their confidence through play! Our feisty feline friends especially enjoy games that involve chasing and catching their toys. Cats also love to scratch on scratching posts as a type of play.

Small animals such as rabbits and guinea pigs love mazes and puzzles, especially when there is a great reward waiting at the end! This helps them think through problems while also burning energy.



What is your favorite way to play? Are there similarities between you and your favorite animal? How do you play the same and how do you play differently?



L R N M G V D H I R U T D U N
M X O W O L K D T J R Y E O L
N E Z O J P M A K Z E O G X N
L C K Q D K B B Q Z S F I C A
R E S P E C T F Q B P R N E D
D M Z H A M B G C Q O J A C O
O O U K D U N S A U N R L O P
H H W I L D L I F E S I B M T
J E B N Z X N H S A I W W P R
H M C D Z O E U N T B K K A U
H P A N C Z P W K Z I T U S D
K A Y E A A N I M A L S T S H
E T P S N J Z U T K I F W I M
L H V S F L T H I R T V Z O W
W Y K P V E N T O S Y S P N V

Word Search

Can You Find All 8?

Living with animals and coexisting with wildlife depends upon human compassion. This is just one of the values that the VBSPCA teaches to help create a more compassionate community and a safer world for our animal friends. Below is a list of values and animal-themed words. Circle each word as you find it, good luck!

- RESPONSIBILITY

COMPASSION

EMPATHY

RESPECT
- KINDNESS

ANIMALS

WILDLIFE

ADOPT