

SUMMER/FALL
2023



VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

PAWSITIVE PRESS

A Newsletter For Kids



**The Great
Indoors**

Respect Your Pup

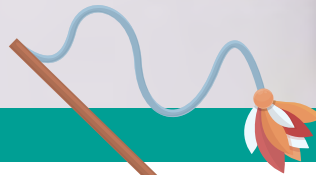
**Make a Toy for
Your Pet**

The Great Indoors

This is a great time of year to get outside and enjoy some fun in the sun. While your cat may be curious about the world outside the window, it's important to keep your feline friends indoors.

There are a lot of reasons why cats should stay inside your home. If your furry friend is wandering freely outside, they could easily get sick if they come across stray cats or pests like ticks, fleas, and parasites, which are organisms that attach themselves to animals and people. Your cat could get hurt if he is hit by a car, attacked by another animal, or stuck in bad weather. Unfortunately it is also possible that your cat could get lost or be stolen if they are outside on their own.

If you do let your cat outside, you should always keep him on a leash. There are even harnesses designed specifically to fit felines! Cats are also known to enjoy being inside a screened area, which allows them to explore the outdoors safely.



Cat Friendly Indoor Adventures

It is important to make sure cats get the exercise and enrichment they need inside! Here are some ideas to keep your kitty happy and healthy:



Put a cat tree next to a window so they can watch birds and see what's going on outside.

Ask an adult to get some cat grass and put it inside a room your cat spends time in regularly.

Make sure your cat has plenty of opportunities to play. Some great options include feather wands, laser pointers, and other toys. Cat scratchers are also very fun for felines!



Make a Toy for Your Pet!

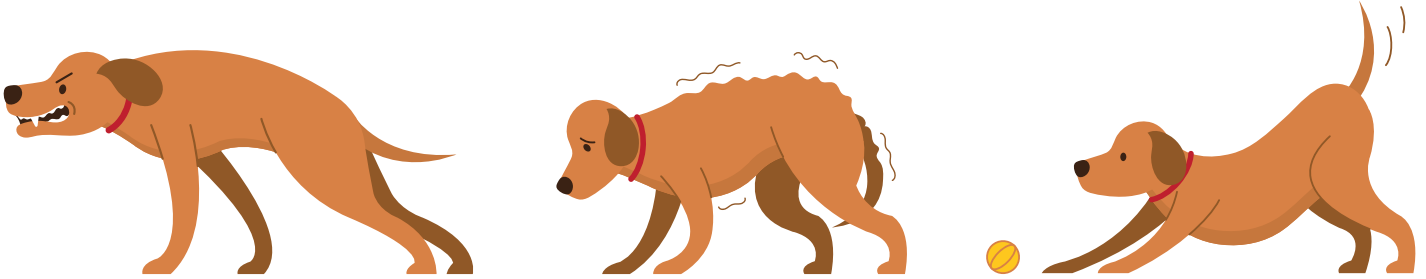
Get crafty and make a toy for your pet or a shelter animal. You can find step-by-step instructions to make a toy for a cat, dog, or small animal at vbspca.com/crafts.



Respect Your Pup

Just like people, dogs have a language to tell you how they are feeling. Instead of words, animals use their body language and behavior to let you know if they are ready to play, want some time alone, or are afraid of something or someone.

You can be a good friend to your pup by learning what they are trying to tell you. When you pay close attention to what they are trying to communicate and show them respect, your pet will learn to trust you. It also protects you since dogs give warning signs before they may bite or snap.



If a Dog is Threatened

The dog will try to make themselves look bigger by raising the fur on their back and/or tail; raising their ears upward and forward; or sticking their tail straight up

They may be very still and stare at what is bothering them

They may growl, lunge or bark

If a Dog is Afraid

The dog will try to make themselves look smaller by cowering, lowering their head, tucking their tail, or flattening their ears

They may lick their lips a lot, yawn a lot, or avoid eye contact

They may growl or snarl

If a Dog is Playful

The dog is wagging their tail loosely from side to side or in a circle

They may “play bow,” or lean down on their front end and leave their back end in the air

They are acting silly and bouncing around



You should always leave your pup alone if they are eating, sleeping, sick, or hurt. If your dog walks away from you or tries to hide from you, let them be.

Always remember:

You should **never** go up to a dog or try to touch a dog you don't know without an adult telling you it is okay to do so.

VBSPCA

Bucky





Bucky is a high energy pup who was cared for at the VBSPCA for two months before finding his forever family.

Here's Looking at You, Kids!



The National Junior Honor Society at St. John the Apostle Catholic School hosted a donation drive for gently used towels and blankets in May. Three of the group's members, Anna, Justice, and Leah, dropped off two wagon loads of linens at our shelter!

We appreciate all of the young donors who make a difference by gathering some of the things that keep VBSPCA animals happy and comfortable while they wait to find their forever homes!

Upcoming Fun

You can find fun activities throughout the year on our website! Here is a look at what we have planned in the coming months.

Change for Change - June through August
Collect coins to help the animals

Fall Reading Challenge - September through November
Complete reading activities to earn prizes

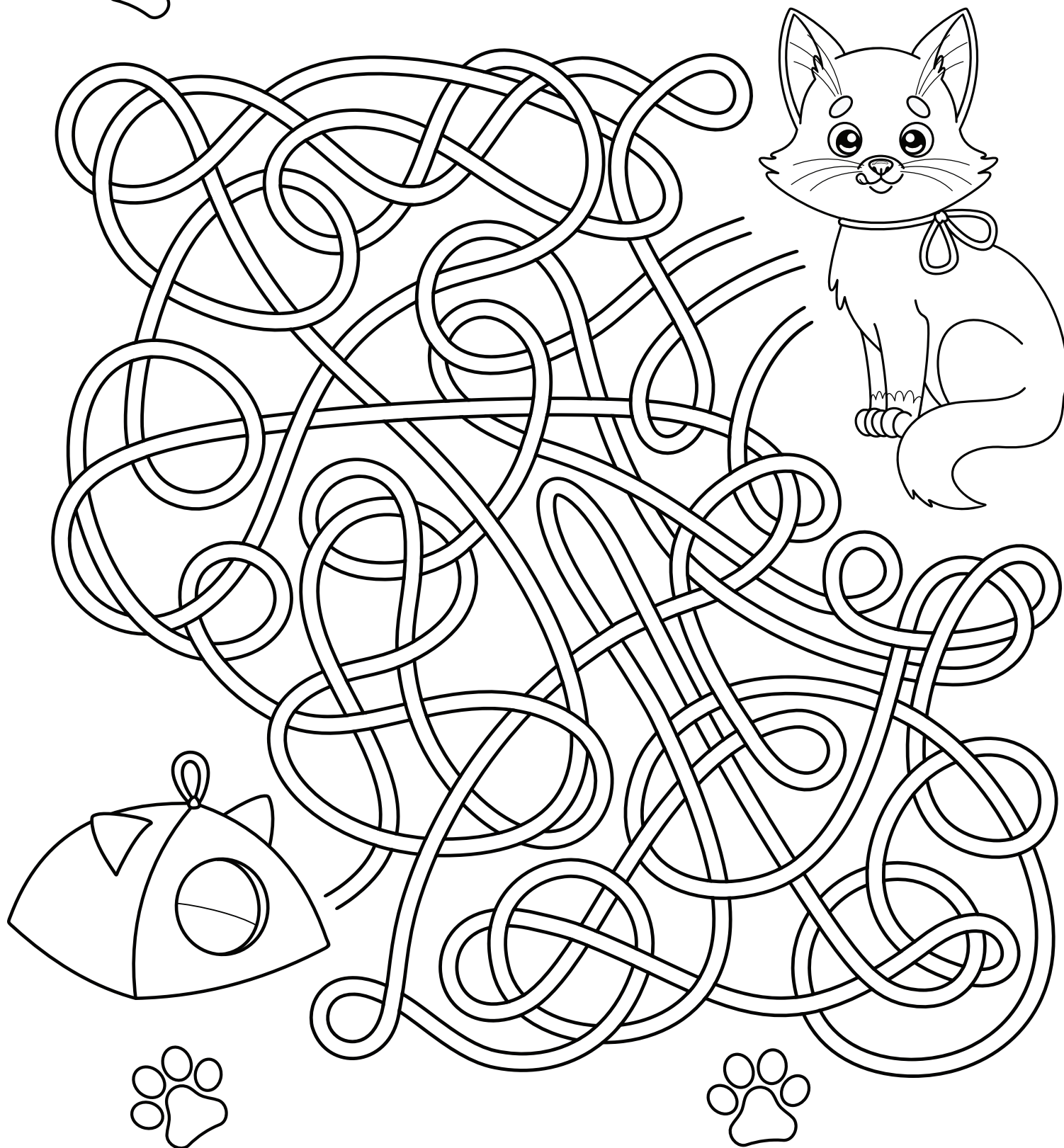
Holiday Wishes - December
Send a holiday greeting to a shelter animal

Visit vbspca.com/virtual-activity for fun things to do throughout the year!

Complete The Maze



Help Daisy find her way to her cozy bed,
then color the page for extra fun!





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