

SUMMER/FALL
2024

VBSPCA

VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

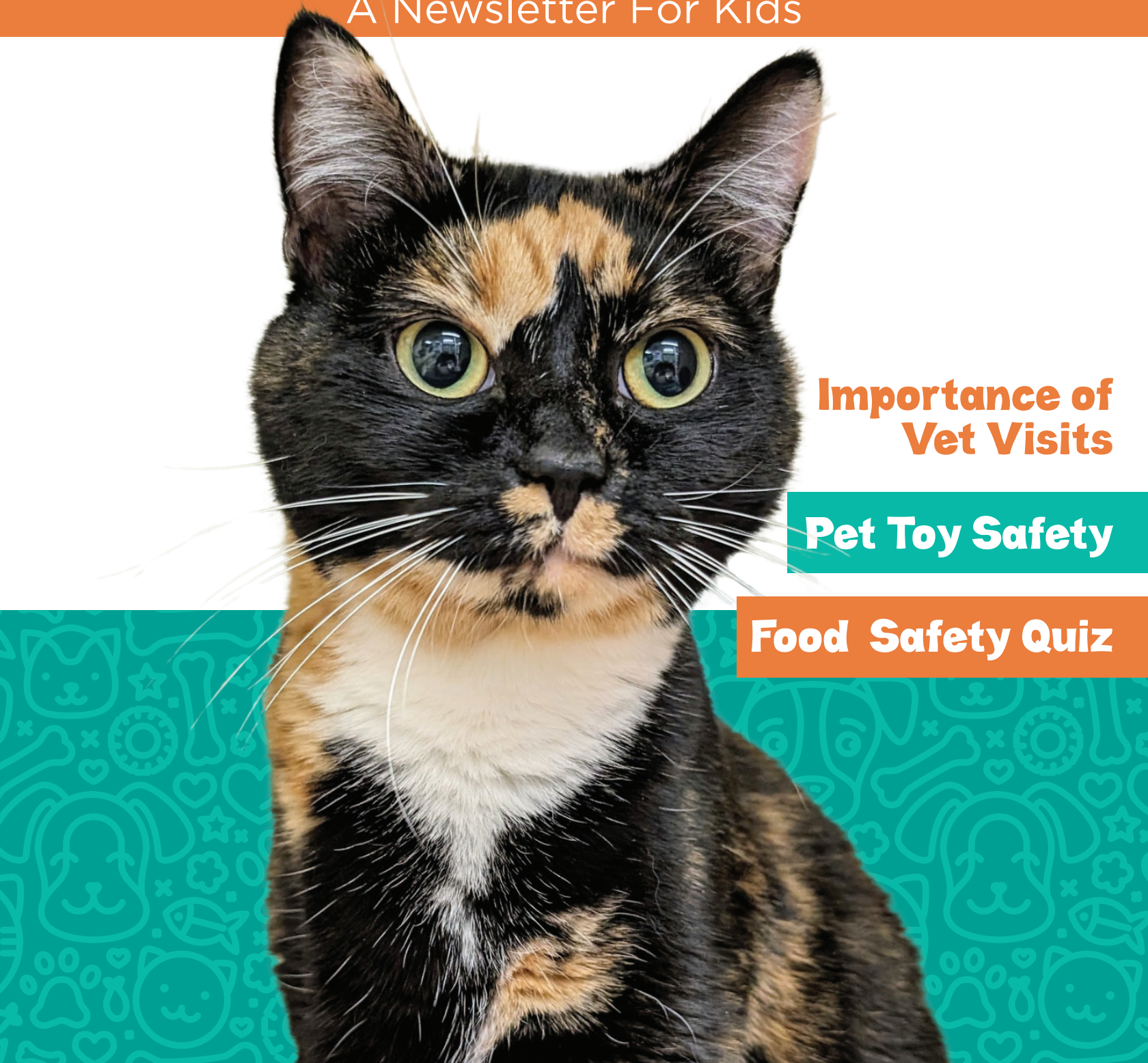
PAWSITIVE PRESS

A Newsletter For Kids

**Importance of
Vet Visits**

Pet Toy Safety

Food Safety Quiz



Pets Need Checkups Too!

Pets have to go to the doctor just like people. Animal doctors are called veterinarians. They do everything from checkups to sickness visits to surgeries!

Just like you have your yearly checkup, your pet should go to the doctor at least once a year. Visiting the veterinarian is an important part of keeping your pet happy and healthy.

Vet Visit Safety

Pets should always be on a leash or inside a carrier when they leave the house, and that includes when they go for their checkup. Leashes and carriers help to make sure your furry friend doesn't get loose. They also keep your pet away from other animals in the waiting room, since some animals may be scared or may not be friendly.

During the Checkup

Animal checkups are a lot like people's! Here are some things the veterinarian will do during the visit.

- **Physical exam:** The veterinarian will check your pet's eyes, ears, nose, teeth, and skin. They'll also weigh them and listen to your pet's heart and lungs.
- **Tests:** Your pet's doctor will also do any necessary tests, like bloodwork. These tests are able to show more information about your pet's health.
- **Vaccinations:** Nobody likes getting shots, but they are important! Shots, which are also called vaccines, help fight off germs and protect your pet from getting sick.

Once the checkup is done, the veterinarian will talk with your parent or guardian about any concerns they have about your pet's health and share any tips to improve their wellness.

When You Get Home

It is important to respect your pet's space when they get home from the veterinarian's office. Your pet may be tired, scared, or even sore from their vaccines. If they go off to rest, let them be! Once they are ready for cuddles or playtime, be sure to be extra gentle.

All animals should be seen by a veterinarian once a year for a wellness check, but if your pet isn't feeling well you should take them to a veterinarian immediately.



Safety First

Part of being a responsible pet owner is making sure your furry friend is safe. There are lots of ways to protect your pet from harm. Two important areas to think about are toys and food.

Toy Safety

Pets enjoy playing with toys just like you do. Toys are fun, and they can exercise an animal's body and mind. However, sometimes toys can be dangerous.

- **Never Share Your Toys with Your Pet**

Pet toys are built so that animals can chew on them, carry them in their mouth, and play with them. Your toys may have parts on them that could cause your pet to choke or get sick.

- **Pick up Stuffing, Feathers, and Broken Parts**

Sometimes your dog might rip the stuffing out of a toy or your cat might break feathers off a wand. Be sure to pick up any parts of a toy and throw them away so your pet doesn't eat them.



Food & Water Safety

Think about when you sit down to dinner with your family. You probably wash your hands before you come to the table. The plates and silverware on the table are clean. You don't use your silverware to get food out of the dishes. All of these habits are to cut down on spreading sickness!



You wouldn't eat off the same plate or drink out the same glass day after day without washing it. Your pet shouldn't eat and drink out of dirty dishes either! Below are some important safety tips.

- **Wash Dishes Daily**

Your pet's food and water bowls should be washed every day in warm, soapy water.

- **Use a Separate Scoop**

Never use your pet's food bowl to scoop food out of their food bag or container.

- **Keep Hands Clean**

Wash your hands before and after you handle your pet's food and bowls.

You'll learn about what cats and dogs can and can't eat with the activity in this newsletter!

VBSPCA

Leo





Leo came to the VBSPCA along with his four siblings.
After receiving care in a foster home, all five puppies were adopted!

Here's Looking at You, Kids!



Girl Scout Juniors from Troop 782 made birdhouses and squirrel feeders to be used in the VBSPCA Memorial Garden. They chose to try out woodworking as part of their Bronze Award Project. Thank you for caring about animals in our community!

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.

Kids Night In

November 15th

Meet adoptable animals and enjoy food, games, crafts, and more!

Register at vbspca.com/kids-night-in.

Virtual Activities

September through November - Fall Reading Challenge

December - Holiday Wishes for Shelter Pets

Visit vbspca.com/virtual-activities.

Animal Heroes

An interactive video arcade that teaches you about responsible pet parenting, pet safety, and animal welfare.

Play anytime at vbspca.com/animal-heroes.

Pet-Safe Foods

Cats and dogs mainly eat pet food, but they can also snack on some of the foods people eat! However, not all “people food” is safe for our furry friends.

Read the lists below. Draw a line from each food that is safe for pets to the dog and cat. Then draw a line from each dangerous food to the trash can.

Pet-Safe Snacks:

Pet Food
Blueberries
Eggs

Cucumbers
Broccoli
Carrots

Chicken
Peanut Butter
Cantaloupe

Cheese
Bananas
Apples (no seeds)

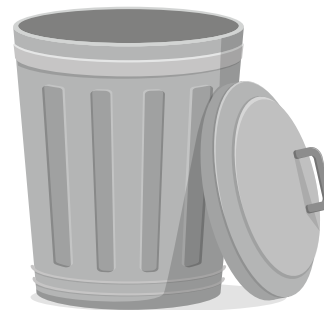
Snacks that Pets Can't Have:

Chocolate
Onions
Grapes

Mushrooms
Eggplants
Avocados

Raisins
Nuts
Candy

Gum
Cooked Bones
Cherries



Don't forget: you should always ask an adult before feeding your pet, even if the food is safe!



VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

3040 Holland Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
(757) 427-0070
vbspca.com

Thank you to our 2024 Humane Education Partner



VBSPCA.COM