

SPRING/SUMMER
2025



VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

PAWSITIVE PRESS

A Newsletter For Kids



**Respect
Your Pet**

Heat safety

**Word
Search**

Respect Your Pet

What They're Trying To Tell You:

Cats, dogs, and small animals have their own language that they communicate their emotions and needs. Pets communicate through sounds, body language, and behaviors. It is important to learn their language so we can respect their feelings. Respect is the key to any healthy relationship, especially those with our furry friends!

Sounds - Dogs bark and cats meow in an effort to get your attention. They might be hungry or ready to play, or it might be time for a bathroom break. When a bark or meow turns into a growl or a hiss, your pet is unhappy and needs some space.

Tail Wagging - Your pet's tail can tell you all kinds of things. If a cat's tail is high and tall, they are feeling curious. If it is wagging from side to side, your cat is feeling agitated. If it is puffy, your cat is experiencing fear. If your dog's tail is wagging loosely from side to side, the dog is feeling friendly. If their tail is between their legs, they are feeling scared. If your pup's tail is pointing up and wagging quickly, they are feeling threatened and may need a break.

Ears and Eyes - When your cat lays back their ears and widens their eyes, they are ready for a hunt. When cats blink, it is a sign that they are comfortable around you. If a cat's or dog's eyes get very big, they are feeling afraid or upset. Dog's ears are also good indicators of how they are feeling. If they are up, your dog is listening to something. If their ears are flattened, they are feeling scared.

Running Away, Cowering, or Hiding - If your pet is doing any of these things, they want to be left alone. Be sure to give them space.

By listening to what your pet is trying to say, you'll become even better friends!

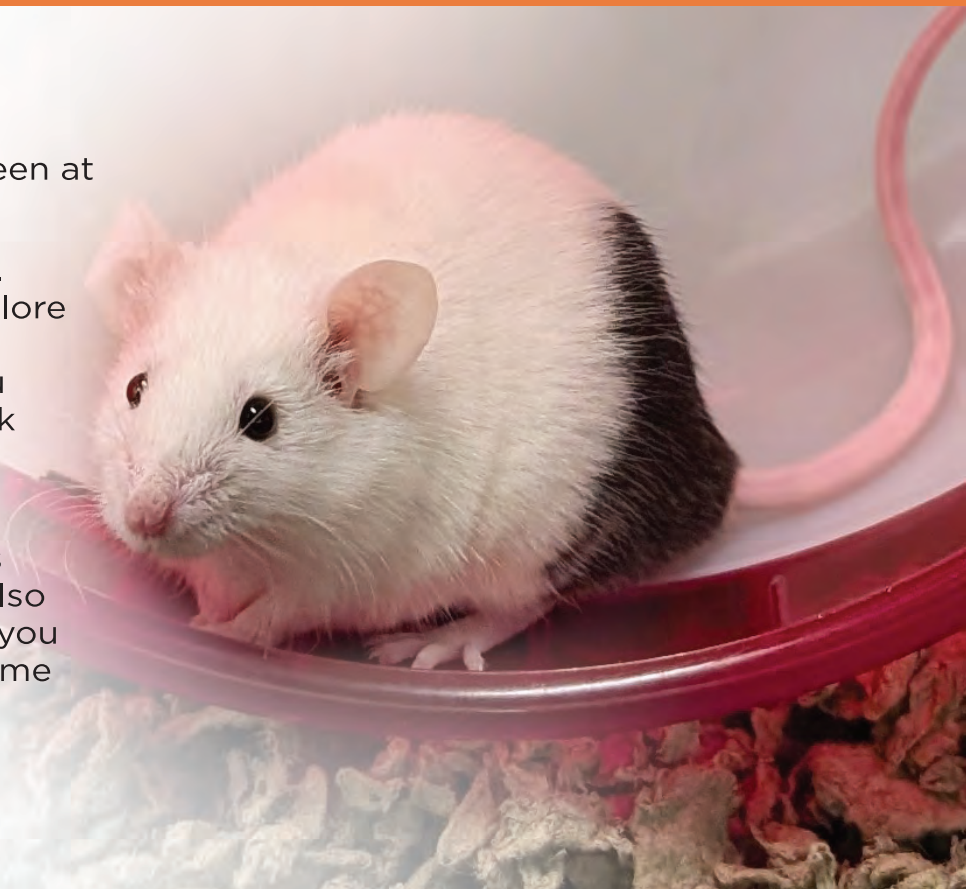
Meet Piglet

He is our longest resident and has been at the VBSPCA for over 200 days.

Piglet is a playful and quiet little guy. He loves to run on his wheel and explore his tank. He does not like to be held, this makes him feel unsafe, but if you respect his feelings, he enjoys a quick pet in the comfort of his home.

His favorite foods are cheese and strawberries. Piglet also really enjoys nibbling on wood chew toys which also keeps his teeth healthy. If you think you would be a good home for Piglet, come to the shelter for a visit!

vbspca.com/adoptable-animals



Keep Pets Cool

The summer heat can be dangerous to our pets, and it is our job to keep them safe. Use the below tips to make sure your furry friend stays cool on hot summer days.



Find Shade

If you and your pet are outside during the day, make sure to allow your pet plenty of time in the shade. You can also provide your dogs with a kiddie pool filled with cool water or a cool towel to lay down on.



Protect Their Paws

When taking your pet for a walk, check the pavement with your hand before you leave. If you can't leave your hand on the pavement for longer than 3 seconds, it is too hot for your pet! Go for walks in the morning or evening when it's cooler. If you must take your pet out during the day, allow them to walk in the grass.



Hydration Is Key

Pets can get dehydrated quickly, so be sure to provide them with plenty of fresh, cool water. Add some ice cubes for extra fun! If you and your pet will be outside for more than 5 minutes, bring water and a bowl with you.



Know The Signs Of Heat Stroke

Animals pant to cool their body, but if the humidity is too high, animals can not get cool. Watch for heavy panting, excessive water consumption, and signs of disorientation. Lower their temperature by wetting the top of their head with cool water and increase air movement with a fan. You'll want to be sure your parents call a veterinarian as soon as possible.

Never leave your pet in the car, especially during the summer months.
By following these tips, you can help keep your pet safe and happy this summer!

WORD SEARCH

You and your pet can beat the heat with the words hidden in this puzzle. Can you find them all?

SHADE

HYDRATION

PAWS

ICE

COOL

GRASS

WATER

POOL

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



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3040 Holland Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23453

Animal Heroes

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

vbspca.com/animal-heroes

Thank you to our 2025 Humane Education Partner



Here's Looking at You, Kids!

Did you know, our Tale for Two program not only helps you improve your reading skills, but it also makes our animals happy?

This allows them time to feel comfortable around humans and helps set them up for success in finding their new homes.

Sign up today at vbspca.com/a-tale-for-two