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NATIONAL



# CAT DAY

PACKET

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**Imagine That!**  
**Stories**  
Free Supplemental  
Lesson Pack 3

## HELPFUL ADVICE

These are *Imagine That!* and Visualizing and Verbalizing® (V/V®) workbook stories that can be used with any program of instruction to develop imagery for language comprehension, and can be used with the Visualizing and Verbalizing program. Although these stories have been written at specific grade levels, you can use them with other grade levels as you feel is appropriate. Each story features a main idea or topic to be imaged, and then provides detailed imagery for the topic. While sentences or paragraphs may contain much concrete detail that can be imaged, others contain abstract concepts.

It is recommended that you start with the vocabulary to help students both with decoding and with imaging new words and concepts. While reading the story, be sure to ask imagery questions to elicit detailed imagery from the student. Some example imagery questions have been provided for you.

Once you have completed each story, move on to the imagery-stimulating questions. These are main idea, inference, conclusion, evaluation, and prediction questions. The order of the higher order thinking questions is such that they stimulate students' thinking first about the gestalt, and then about the details of the story. Some questions may include contrast or introduce additional information, from which the students can extend their thinking about the story. It is not necessary to ask every question, but be sure you ask enough that your student has the gestalt of the story.

Additional activities are provided in the form of puzzles, pictures, and further exploration of the subject or topic.



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For more information on the Visualizing and Verbalizing program, *Imagine That! Stories*, and other Visualizing and Verbalizing products, go to [GanderPublishing.com](http://GanderPublishing.com).

Preread words for each story:

1

swamps  
Asia  
outer  
layer  
propel

4

guitar  
ginger  
knitted  
high fives

2

roof  
straw  
curl  
slippery

5

bear  
hissed  
chase  
meowed  
climbed

3

stunts  
show  
platform  
tightrope  
clown

Study and visualize the vocabulary:

**swamps:** wet, muddy, or flooded lands (*n.*)

**Asia:** a continent in the Eastern hemisphere (*n.*)

**outer:** outside, external (*adj.*)

**layer:** a sheet or thickness of material that covers something (*n.*)

**propel:** cause to move in a certain direction (*v.*)

**roof:** the top outer layer of a house or building (*n.*)

**straw:** thin, dried stalks of grain (*n.*)

**curl:** to move into a curved shape (*v.*)

**slippery:** easy to slip or slide on (*adj.*)

**stunts:** actions that are daring or very difficult, often as a performance (*n.*)

**show:** a public entertainment, such as a circus or play (*n.*)

**platform:** a raised level surface people can stand on, often for performances (*n.*)

**tightrope:** a rope or wire stretched tightly high above the ground (*n.*)

**clown:** a comic entertainer, usually in heavy makeup and wig (*n.*)

**guitar:** a stringed musical instrument (*n.*)

**ginger:** (of hair) orange in color (*adj.*)

**knitted:** made with interlocking loops of yarn (*adj.*)

**high fives:** the act of slapping open hands (or paws) in celebration (*n.*)

**bear:** a large furry animal with sharp claws and teeth (*n.*)

**hissed:** made an angry, warning noise, often done by an animal (*v.*)

**chase:** run after, try to catch (*v.*)

**meowed:** made the sound of a cat (*v.*)

**climbed:** went up something, like a hill or ladder (*v.*)



## The Fishing Cat

The fishing cat is a small wild cat that lives and hunts in the swamps of Southeast Asia. Unlike most cats, this gray and black cat loves water and is a great swimmer. Under her outer coat, the cat has a second layer of fur that is short, dense, and waterproof. Her strong back legs propel her as she hunts for fish in the still pools of water. She catches fish by scooping them out of the water with her front claws or diving deep to bite them.

From what you pictured...

1. Do you think this cat is different from most cats? Why?
2. Why do you think this cat lives in swamps?
3. Why do you think the cat has a second layer of fur?
4. Why do you think the cat's second layer of fur is waterproof?
5. Why do you think it is important for this cat to have strong back legs?



## Raining Cats and Dogs

Today people sometimes say, "It's raining cats and dogs," when there is heavy rain. People may have started saying this in the 1800s, when homes in England had roofs made of thick straw. In the winter, cats and dogs may have climbed onto the roof of a house. They would curl up on the straw to keep warm. When a storm came, rain falling on the straw would make it slippery. A cat or dog walking on the roof would slip on the wet straw and fall to the ground.

From what you pictured...

1. Why might cats and dogs climb onto the roof in the winter?
2. Why would it be warm on the roofs?
3. Why might the cats and dogs slip off the roof?
4. Why might people have started saying, "It's raining cats and dogs"?
5. Would you picture cats and dogs sleeping on the roofs of houses today? Why or why not?

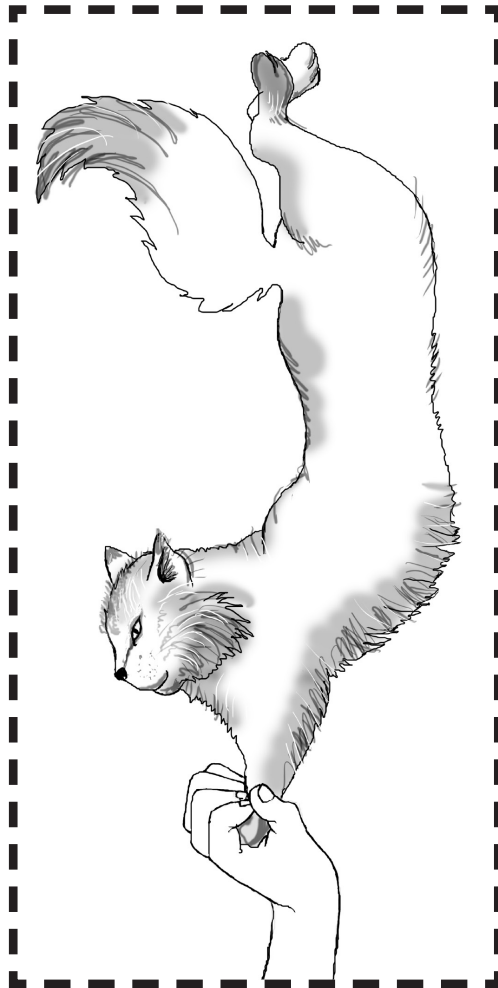


## Amazing Cats

Cats perform stunts in a show called the Moscow Cats Theater. To begin the show, an orange cat stands on top of a large ball and rolls it across the stage. Next a black cat leaps onto a platform and walks on a long tightrope. Then a clown balances a brown and white cat on her two front paws in the palm of his hand. The crowd cheers as the clown pets the cat and gives her a treat.

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Do you think the cats train before the show? Why or why not?
3. Do you think the cats ever fall when they do these stunts? Why or why not?
4. Why do you think the crowd cheers?
5. Why do you think the clown gives the cat a treat?



## An Entertaining Duo

James Bowen plays his guitar on the street for money, and his cat Bob is always with him. Shoppers in London stop to listen to the music and to see the ginger cat. Bob sits next to James on a knitted blue blanket and sometimes meows with the music. He likes when people pet him, and he gives high fives to James, stretching out his orange paw. The people love to hear James and meet Bob, and the money they earn keeps the pair under a roof and fed.

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Do you think James would do as well without Bob?
3. Why do you think Bob sits with James? Why doesn't he run away?
4. Do you think most guitar players performing on the street have a cat with them? Why or why not?
5. People like to take pictures of Bob and James. Why do you think people take pictures of the pair?



*Story from Imagine That! Grade 6, Fascinating People*

## Cat Versus Bear

A black bear walked out of the woods and into the backyard of a house. A cat in the yard hissed at the bear and began to chase him. The bear climbed up a tree while the cat meowed loudly below. At last the cat left and went into the house. The bear climbed down the tree and ran back into the woods.

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Why did the cat chase the bear?
3. Was the bear afraid of the cat? Why or why not?
4. Why did the cat go back into the house?
5. What would you picture happening if the bear tried to climb back down the tree while the cat was still there?



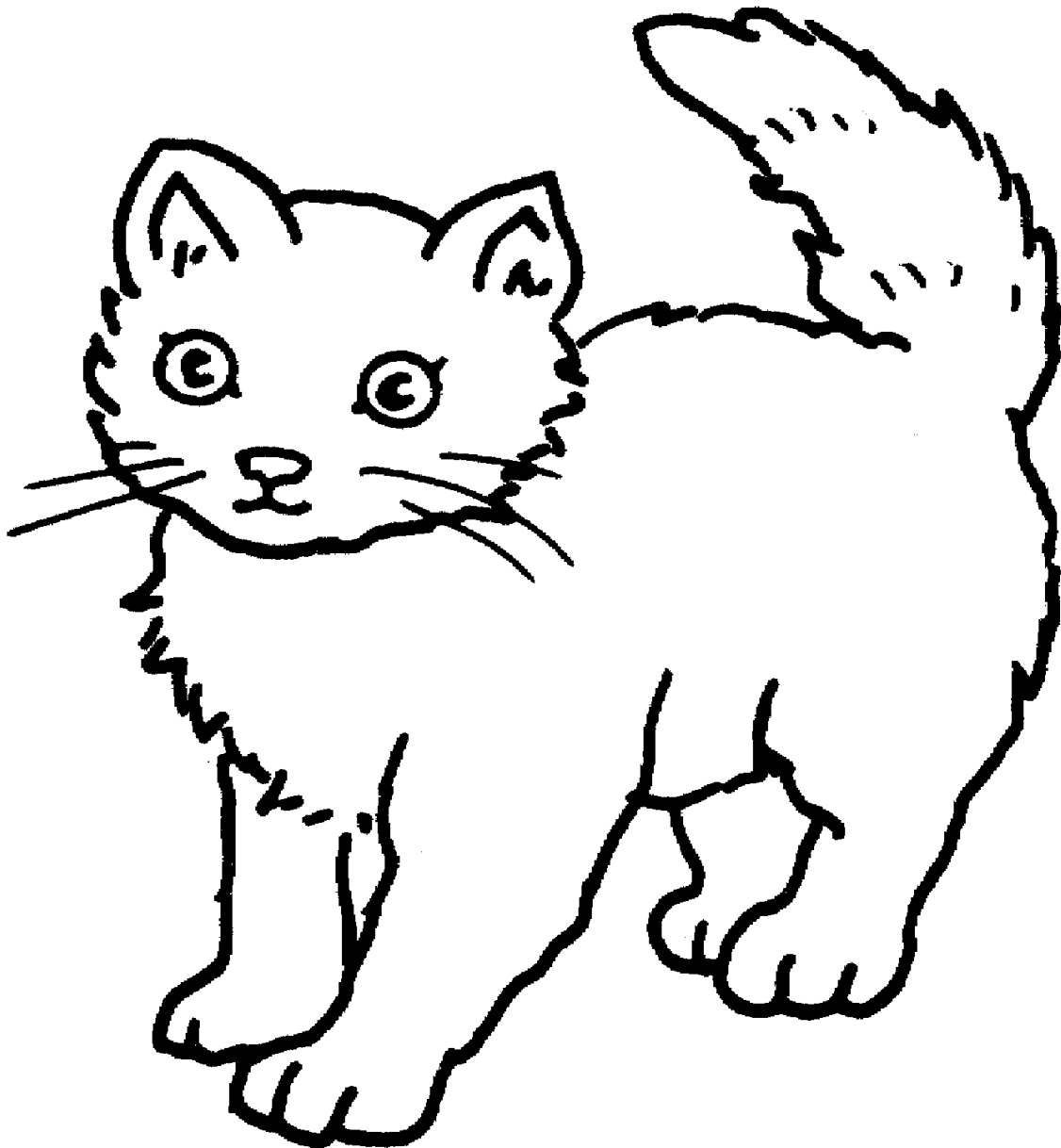


## Color The Cat!

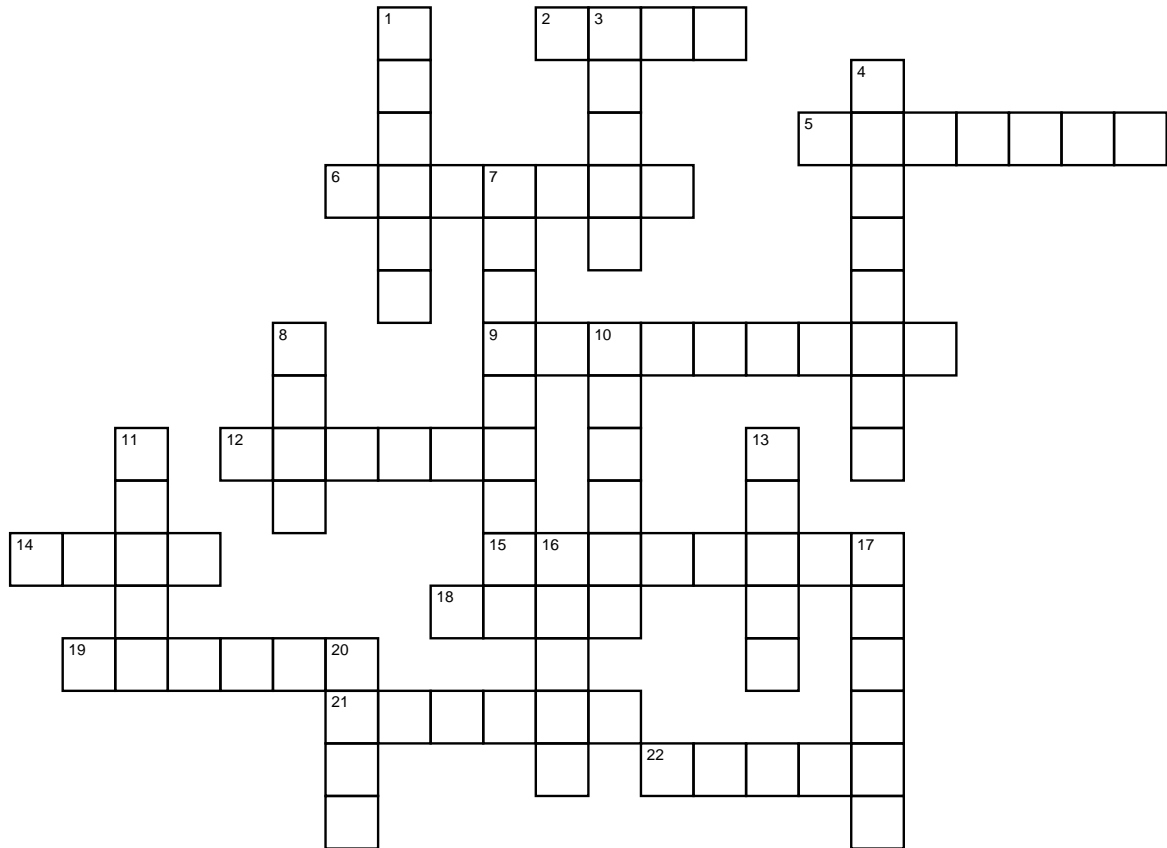
Cats come in all different patterns and colors.



What kind of cat do you picture?



# Crossword Puzzle



**Across**

- 2. The top outer layer of a house or building
- 5. Went up something, like a hill or ladder
- 6. Made with interlocking loops of yarn
- 9. The act of slapping open hands (or paws) in celebration
- 12. (of hair) orange in color
- 14. To move into a curved shape
- 15. A raised level surface people can stand on, often for performances
- 18. A large furry animal with sharp claws and teeth
- 19. Wet, muddy, or flooded lands
- 21. Made an angry, warning noise, often done by an animal
- 22. Run after, try to catch

**Down**

- 1. Actions that are daring or very difficult, often as a performance
- 3. Outside, external
- 4. Easy to slip or slide on
- 7. A rope or wire stretched tightly high above the ground
- 8. A continent in the Eastern hemisphere
- 10. A stringed musical instrument
- 11. Thin, dried stalks of grain
- 13. A comic entertainer, usually in heavy make-up and wig
- 16. A sheet or thickness of material that covers something
- 17. Made the sound of a cat
- 20. A public entertainment, such as a circus

# Word Search Puzzle



Asia  
bear  
chase  
climbed  
clown  
curl

ginger  
guitar  
high fives  
hissed  
knitted  
layer

meowed  
outer  
platform  
roof  
show  
slippery

straw  
stunts  
swamps  
tightrope

