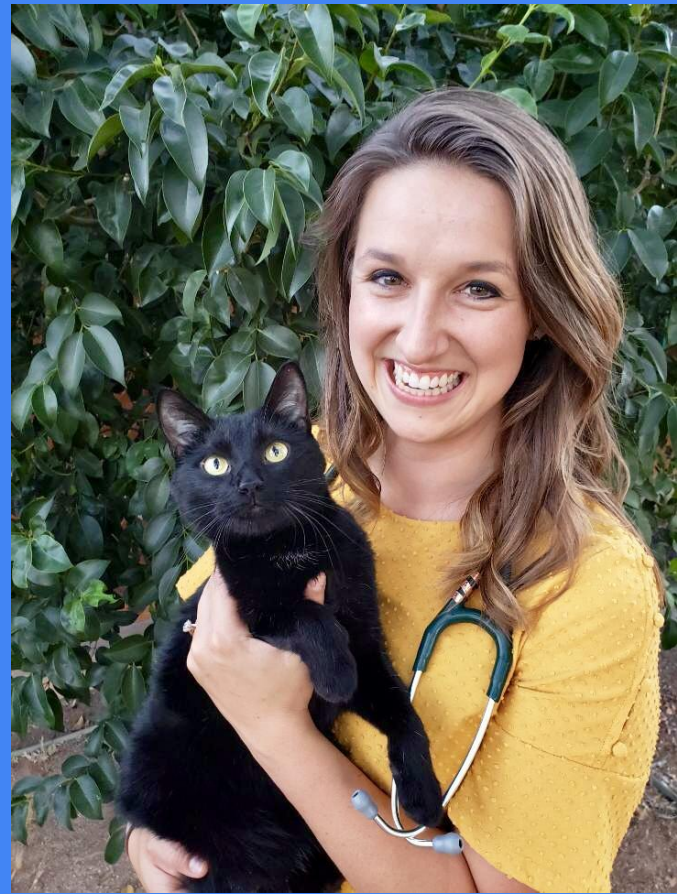


FELINE BEHAVIOR



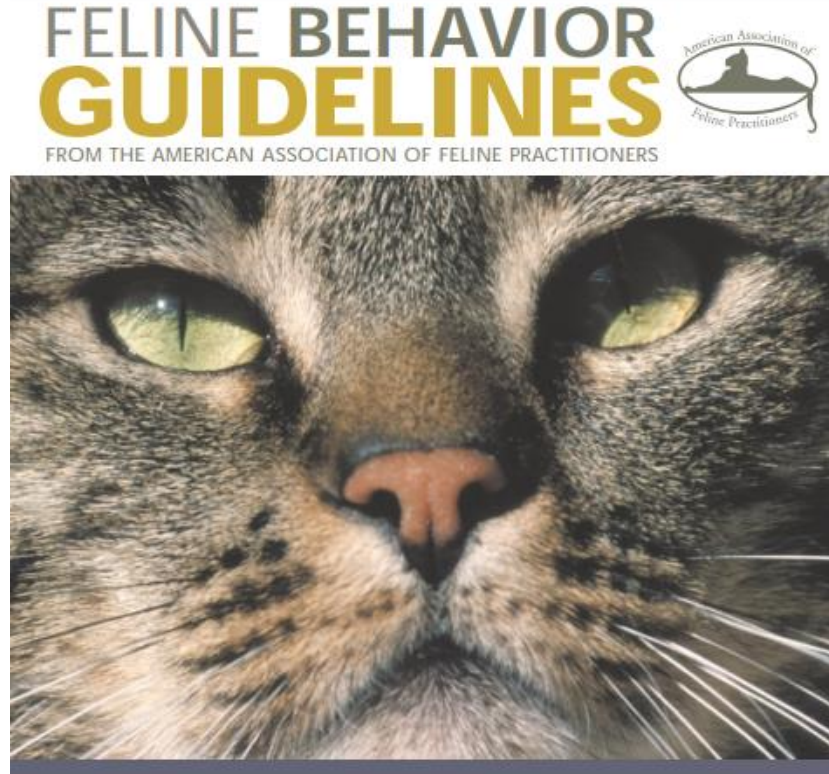
Sarah Neuser, DVM
Twin Peaks Veterinary Center

-catvocate



AAFP's Feline Behavior Guidelines:

- Understanding “normal” behavior
 - Elimination behaviors
 - Social norms / Communication
 - Scratching
 - Feeding
- Behavior vs Medical?
- Resources and Open Forum



Elimination Habits

- Still the #1 reason for relinquishment/ euthanasia

Elimination Habits

- Still the #1 reason for relinquishment/euthanasia



Elimination Habits



Elimination Habits



Elimination Habits

- Clean -- 1-2x/daily
- Fine substrate
 - 4 seconds
- UNSCENTED
- Length = 1.5x length of cat body
- LB# = 1 per cat (social group) + 1
- Multiple locations
 - Private
 - Easy to access
 - Not next to noisy appliances
- Sweater storage boxes, cement mixing tubs, small dog litter pans



Medium Mixing Tub

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Social



Communication



$\Lambda_0 B_0$ 	$\Lambda_1 B_0$ 	$\Lambda_2 B_0$ 	$\Lambda_3 B_0$
$\Lambda_0 B_1$ 	$\Lambda_1 B_1$ 	$\Lambda_2 B_1$ 	$\Lambda_3 B_1$
$\Lambda_0 B_2$ 	$\Lambda_1 B_2$ 	$\Lambda_2 B_2$ 	$\Lambda_3 B_2$
$\Lambda_0 B_3$ 	$\Lambda_1 B_3$ 	$\Lambda_2 B_3$ 	$\Lambda_3 B_3$

Communication



Scratching

- Innate behavior
 - Groom the front claws
 - Leave visual and olfactory marks
 - Stretch their muscles!
- Nail care - trimming vs caps
- Proper training
- Proper substrates
 - Horizontal vs Vertical?
 - Fabric? Wool? twine?

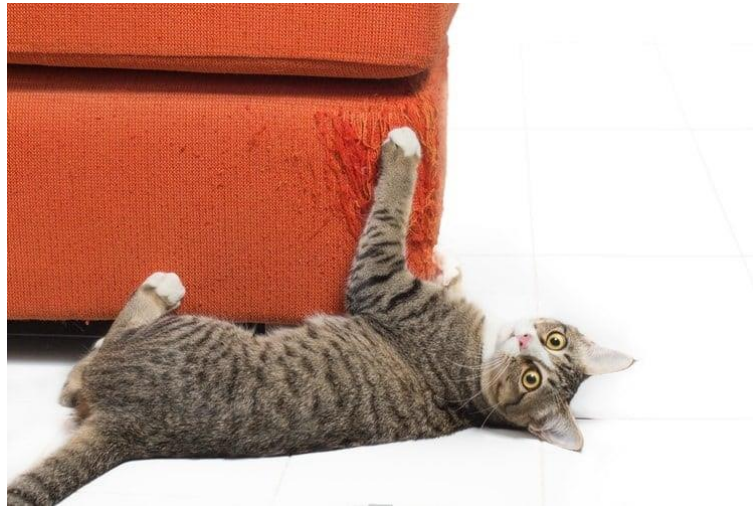


Figure 5 Training a kitten to use a scratching post can help prevent undesirable scratching.

Feeding



PetSafe SlimCat Interactive Cat Feeder

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Behavior? Or Medical?





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KITTENS

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SCRATCH



ALL CATS ARE INTROVERTS

WHY I DIDN'T ANSWER WHEN YOU CALLED

FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO

WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A PROJECT
AND DIDN'T WANT TO LOSE FOCUS



NEEDED TIME TO CAREFULLY
DETERMINE HOW BEST TO RESPOND



IG @marciuliano

WANTED TO WAIT UNTIL IT WAS
TOO LATE TO HANG OUT



MARCIULIANO

Thank you!