

Animal Specific Samples:

Dealing with a Biting Horse (parts of article)

Nipping regularly begins in adolescent horses who are just exploring the world with their mouth. It is by all accounts more normal in colts, particularly the individuals who are not yet gelded, yet fillies might likewise nip. At that point, it is normal to a degree since the behavior when done with other horses is corrected by them and has its purpose. The problem is, the young horse must know the difference in nipping people. The behavior can continue to the point of breaking the skin of the handler or owner. Some owners think it is cute when an adolescent horse nips their shirt, hair or skin and ignores it or worse, pats the colt/filly. Then, one day, the animal bites a bit too hard and the handler reacts without warning to the horse. The young horse is astounded when the human screams or reproves them. In his brain, he was simply doing what he had been allowed to do previously.

In my stable, if a horse snack or nips, he is quickly corrected. If he's wearing a typical halter and lead rope and space allows, I immediately use the rope as a short lunge and have the horse move around until it bores or tires of the activity. Another option on lead is making the response is regularly a boisterous "no!" with a light smack with the lead rope. The smack should not be to the face but on a fleshy part like the chest or shoulder. In the event that the horse is not on lead, I give a loud "no" and walk away and ignore the horse. On the off chance that the horse repeats the conduct, I will smack him or hit him in the midsection, neck or shoulder and again give a boisterous NO.

Hitting a horse for no reason, punching a horse or hitting a horse in the head are all poor ideas that lead nowhere good. People who don't know horses well often think it is savage to smack a horse. A firm smack or hit on the neck, shoulder, or midsection is like the discipline horses provide for one another for improper conduct. Watch a female horse with her more established foal or a gathering of horses in the pasture: if the foal nibbles his mother, his mother may do the same back, tenderly pushing him with her foot or even kick before...

..... do not support hitting a horse with a whip or other instrument repeatedly when they clearly have no idea why it is happening. This will rapidly make behavior worse.....

..... else to remember: in the event that you have a nipper, don't hand-feed treats. Some horses can consume hand-fed treats without a problem, however some get to be pushy and mouthy.

- If the horse is not on lead, he may spin around and kick you if you respond to his poor behavior with a physical response. Instead, if he is loose,

Can Dogs Eat Cheerios? (parts of article)

Finding treats that your dog likes probably isn't too difficult if your dog is as food motivated as most. The trickier part is finding treats that dogs like and can eat without gaining weight or having digestive problems. For some dog owners finances can be an issue as well, since there are many treats on the market that are great for dogs, but may be expensive or sold only in small quantities.

Cereal for Dogs

One low-cost treat that is popular in dog-treat recipes or as a stand-alone offering is basic cold breakfast cereal. Cheerios are often in the list, but can dogs eat cheerios? There was a time when cheerios only came in one simple flavor, but nowadays brand-name Cheerios come in a wide variety of flavors

.... other cheerio types including multigrain should be fine for most dogs, but if your dog has a specific allergy, you may need to exclude some types of cheerios. Some types of cheerios are definitely a NO for all dogs. The chocolate flavor doesn't have enough cocoa in it to be of high risk to some dogs, but any cereal that has any amount of chocolate, coffee or caffeine should be ruled out for all dogs and could propose significant risk to a smaller animal. According to an ASPCA you need to be aware that these "all contain substances called methylxanthines, which are found in cacao seeds, the fruit of the plant used to make coffee, and in the nuts of an extract used in some sodas. When ingested by pets, methylxanthines can cause vomiting and diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst and urination, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures.....

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Grain-Free Diets – Really Best?

Giving thought to ingredients may also make you wonder if cereal is actually healthy for dogs. Most of the information we have on canine health points to the conclusion that grains are generally not a necessary addition to a dog's diet, but that underweight dogs may benefit from extra carbohydrates and dogs of a healthy weight don't need to avoid grains in moderate amounts to enjoy their treat time. Calories should be measured carefully for overweight or especially obese dogs, so that means that an un-needed grain product could cause weight gain if not monitored very well. It is important to note that cereals often have less calories than commercial dog treats so even an overweight dog.....

Cats have very specific needs when it comes to feeding and some cat feeding particulars are critical for a beginner. If you live with a feline, you may have already discovered that some cats act as though they own you instead of the opposite! They can be a bit fussy about eating and they also have particular dietary requirements, so cat feeding isn't as straightforward as it may appear.

Timing

Cats can react to feeding in very different ways depending on breed, metabolism and personal taste. For example, a Siamese cat may tend to be thin and may not keep weight

on easily. A Maine Coon cat may be prone to overeating and might become overweight if fed too much or too often. If you know the breed of your cat, you can search the internet for a general idea on breed metabolism. Remember that some purebred cats won't react to feeding like others, so this should only be used as a general guideline. The second thing you can do to start out is to assess the appearance of the cat. If your cat or kitten seems thin or is very active, more food or more frequent feeding may be required.

Scheduling

A cat that tends to stay underweight or barely maintains a healthy weight may even need access to dry food at all times. Most cats do not need this kind of free feeding, though, and will do just fine on a schedule. A cat that naturally tends to be heavy or gains weight easily should be fed on a schedule, typically 2-4 times per day. If your cat finishes food quickly and is lean, you may need to feed as much as 4 times per day. If your cat is thin or heavy and overeats to the point of vomiting, that cat may also need to be fed smaller amounts up to 4 times per day. If your cat gains weight easily, you will need to see if it works better to feed higher portions 2-3 times a day or smaller portions 3-4 times per day. Kittens tend to need more feedings than adult cats, so adjust as necessary for a younger cat.

Amount

When measuring cat food, not all foods are equal. No food can be fed strictly based on how much fits in a measuring cup since the calories will vary in both dry and wet food. In general, an adult cat that weighs 4 kg (8.8 lbs.) needs about 250-255 calories in a day. You can check the calories in a measured serving of the type of food you plan to feed and divide the proper amount so that the cat gets enough food to maintain a healthy weight. 4 kg is an average adult cat, but some heavier or hybrid breeds will be bigger while some light or dwarf breeds will be healthy at a small weight. If you aren't sure of the healthy weight for your cat, check with a veterinarian.

If you have a cat or kitten that is active and tends to keep you up at night, you may want to make the earlier feedings a bit less and save a larger feeding for bedtime. If you play with your cat for a while before bedtime and then feed, your pet is more likely to relax for a while.

What Kind of Food?

Cat experts can tell you that the most common problem older cats have is with the kidneys. For this reason, it is important to keep your cat hydrated throughout life. Hydrated kidneys are healthier kidneys! Hydration is also important for the bladder, liver and for overall health. Some cats naturally drink a great deal of water, especially if they have access to a cat fountain or another source of running water. If your cat does drink a lot of water, you may not have to worry as much about hydration. If your cat does become dehydrated easily, you will need to incorporate more water into the feeding schedule.

If you aren't sure about your cat's water intake, you can observe some things that will help you. When you gently pinch some of your cat's skin between your fingers, the skin should quickly "snap" back into place. If the skin stays in a fold for a little longer, that can be a sign of dehydration. You can also take a peek at the gums around your cat's teeth. If the gums are a healthy pink, this is a sign of general well-being. If the gums are pale, this can be a sign of illness or dehydration. If you aren't sure, have a veterinarian check your cat.

Cat Feeding for Beginners

Cats who need a little more hydration often do best on a diet of both dry and wet food. You can also mix a bit of extra water into the wet food to increase the amount of water the cat takes in. Many people just divide the calorie needs in half and provide half as wet food and half as dry food. Since the wet food must be eaten quickly, this should only be done if the cat likes wet food and eats it happily. If the cat is slow to eat wet foods, you may want to offer wet food only once a day and use dry at other times.

Cats who have dental problems or are elderly may need to be given more wet food than dry, or even a complete wet diet. This is fine for older cats. Dry food can help to clean the teeth of younger cats, so if

Nutrients:

Once you've decided on how much to feed your cat and whether to use wet or dry, check the list of ingredients on the food. Be sure that you choose a food that is specifically formulated for cats. If you have other pets, like dogs, it can be tempting to use the same food for all of them. Some cats love dog food. The problem with this is that there are some crucial nutrients that a cat must receive and may not be present in human food, dog food or other food sources. One of the most important nutrients is called taurine and it is not usually included in dog food. If your cat goes without taurine for a long period of time, weight loss is an early symptom and the lack of taurine can eventually cause irreversible blindness.

As long as you choose a food that is specifically made for cats, you should be fine. Don't hesitate to check

...one food causes too much weight gain or a stomach problem, you can steer clear of that brand and choose a food with strong reviews.

