



Spay and Save

Volunteer Newsletter

ADOPTIONS
May/June
 Cats 56
 Dogs 3

What You Should Know About Being a Foster Parent

You don't have to commit to adoption -- and you can make some cats' lives a whole lot better.

From Catster

"Foster care is one of the most important aspects of pet adoption programs. Shelters and rescues depend on foster homes for many reasons to increase their ability to help more cats and to socialize cats in their care, so they have a better chance at finding their forever home.

But to many, foster cat parenting is daunting. If you're intrigued but have yet to take the plunge, here are five things you should know about being a foster cat parent

1. Fostering Saves Lives

Bringing a cat into your home from a shelter or rescue helps to socialize him and make him more adoptable. Plus, it makes room for another cat in that shelter or rescue to be saved! Continued Page 4



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All About Sandy

By Chris Daniels

This is an amazing story about an eight-year old yellow lab being adopted from Spay and Save. The Pettibone family from Devon has given Sandy a "heaven" to spend the remaining years of her life. Not only are they sharing their beautiful home with her, but they are also taking care of her medical needs. Our gratitude is overflowing to the Pettibone family. In their words: **Continued Page 2**



All About Sandy (Continued)

"Ms. Sandy is doing great. We have her on a little estrogen therapy to stop the incontinence issue which is infrequent and just a little pain medicine at night for her legs. It turns out she has severe arthritis of the knees and the best exercise for her is SWIMMING. We are in great shape for summer for her. She swims literally an hour or more a day.

I will be taking her back to the vet in a week or so to do a follow up. She is just a doll. She has 4 new beds on different floors with egg crate filling for her arthritis. She is a lovely, lively dog. We just love her. She and Sandyman have reached a stasis and seem to enjoy each other. The cat is still a bit of an issue, but it is her not Sandy.

Sandy walks lovely on the leash. She has gone protective mode though on walks... doesn't like other large dogs but that is easy to handle too. All good here and she is an amazing addition to our life."



Physical & Behavioral Development of Kittens for the First 6 Weeks of Life

WEEK 1

Physical Development

- Unable to regulate own body temperature for a few weeks. Rely on the warmth of their mother, a temperature to regulate itself.
- Ability for the mother to sense kittens warm and increase their quantity if diminished.
- Double those birth weight in 1st week of life, undergo 100% growth-increase of skeletal muscle for future system.

Behavioral Development

- Ability to know location, warmth, night other things, alert to much activity and react to warmth of their mother & siblings.
- At 3 days of age nursing starts, by 7 days able to respond to stimuli.

WEEK 2

Physical Development

- Canis in motion and motor skills.
- Eyes open & begin to see blurry shapes (at 7-10 days an attempt).
- Earri opened, beginning ability to hear.
- Nasal of nasal passages.
- Gaining strength and motor skills.

Behavioral Development

- By 10 days, earliest conditional responses is visible. By 12 weeks, begin to follow stimuli, respond to location & distance.
- Can recognize stimuli, may find it unfamiliar sounds.
- May look out visually, able to react, beginning of independence from the mother, start of exploration.
- Formation of some relationships, will walk & see all themselves, capacity of growing self away by the mother but will respond to it, begins to start self-governing & growing of stimuli.
- Development of predatory behavior.

WEEK 3

Physical Development

- Continued gains in sensory and motor skills, some reaching adult status.
- Better at regulating their own body temperature.
- Respiratory system develops.
- Uterine incisors erupt.

Behavioral Development

- Playing begins, directed to initiation of hunting by the mother to stimulate for learning, first walk starts.
- Autonomy observed starts at between 3-5 weeks.

WEEK 4

Physical Development

- Adult-like walking.
- Adult-like hearing and vision.
- Better coordination and motor skills.
- Reaction to smell continues.
- Visuals a gradual growth starts, most develop weight gain by now.
- Teeth continue to erupt.
- Adult behavior at body temperature regulation.

Behavioral Development

- Visual training and attack avoidance, begin to show behavior from the mother.
- Can learn to walk with visual cues alone.
- Queen begins to lay eggs to the nest, begins to show hunting skills.
- Behavioral changes, great play energy continues, spread from adult levels, playing with themselves & growing one another.
- Begin to interact with humans & other animals in their environment on a regular basis.
- Commence Parasiticide Fertilizing.

WEEK 5

Physical Development

- Teeth sharp, the hearing, vision, and locomotion, are well developed but still don't have the grace of an adult feline.
- Ability to walk, understand but hunting continues.

Behavioral Development

- Engage in complex interactions that start to form adult play, learn, while playing begins to kill prey.
- Able to spontaneously use a litter box, demonstrate substrate preference begins to develop.

WEEK 6

Physical Development

- Time of growth and strengthening of the kitten observed, as well as attainment of sensory motor skills.
- Capability of all the parts achieved by adults.
- Full control of autonomic systems.
- Learning social hand-rearing times & day.
- Kitty begins self-raising.

Behavioral Development

- Engage in complex interactions that make of typical kitten play due to new found mobility and coordination, allow more adult responses to be observed, play is a whole lot more complex, with participation at all (socially).
- Learning to play more independent from mother, with all different stimuli.
- Play in changing on sleep (play) in the house (play) to hunting.
- Exhibiting adult reactions of play.
- Close with regular handling for humans.



To visualize this infographic, zoom to 250 % in VIEW

July is National Dog House Repairs Month



Left and Below: DIY Dog house with a sleeping porch and a Log Cabin with its own doggie hot tub.



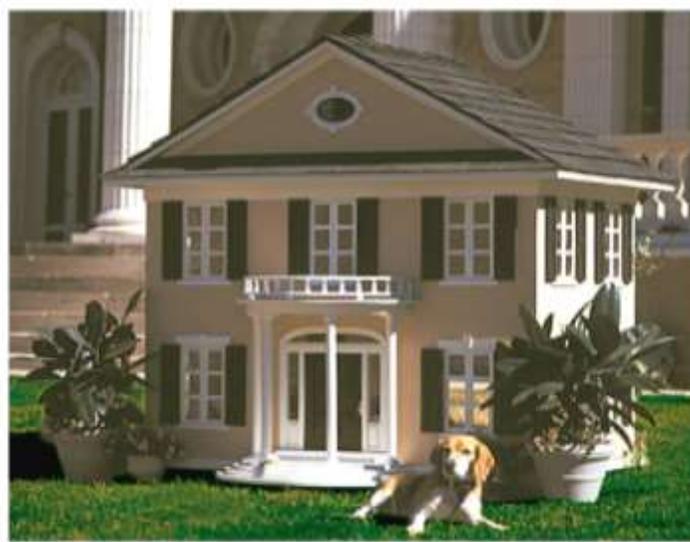
Left: With a heated dog house in the winter and an air-conditioned dog house in the summer, you can relax knowing this dog house air conditioner and heater unit will protect your pet from extreme weather conditions year-round. For only 549.00

Below: The Grand Pet Estate

Custom built dog house to any design including cable TV for just 6,000.00.



Left: Custom made trailer for the smaller dogs who like to travel



Fostering Comes Naturally To Two Spay And Save Volunteers

Ruth Lehr (left) and Shelly Homer (right) are two of our wonderful foster moms. Not pictured is Guy Homer (Shelly's husband) who also helps feed, clean and socialize the charges that Shelly takes on. We are grateful to both for opening their hearts and homes to our little orphans.



What You Should Know About Being Foster Parent (Continued)

2. You can find the perfect situation for you

Fostering a pet doesn't mean an ambiguous, ongoing commitment. Many people fear that taking on a foster means there is no exit strategy. On the contrary: Organizations are interested in making each foster placement a success, which means ensuring everyone involved understands the expectations from the get-go. If all you can offer are short-term stays, great! There is always a need for "emergency" overnight foster homes. If you have more time on your hands and are able to commit to longer-term care, there are always cats who need someone to work with them on trust or socialization issues.

3. It's a low-cost way to help — and enjoy — cats

Shelters and rescues pay for the food, supplies, and medical costs for a cat while she's in your care. True, you are often limited to the products and vet care the organization uses, but there should be no need to outlay cash for your foster cat. Many foster parents do purchase additional supplies or different food, but the most important thing you bring as a foster home is your time, patience and love.

4. It teaches you about your own home

Fostering is a great way to test-drive certain scenarios. If you already have pets, how would they react to a new addition? You never know until the situation presents itself and bringing on a foster cat is a low-risk way of seeing whether the dynamics of your existing house change with a new member. You might find that your pets love having a new playmate, or the new addition may be unwelcome. Either way, your foster cat is temporary and will help you make long-term decisions with more information.

5. Don't worry about getting too attached

A lot of would-be foster parents fear finding themselves with yet another permanent resident or being heartbroken when they must let the cat go to her new, forever home. While both scenarios are realistic — and common — they aren't a given, and you shouldn't fear them. You might surprise yourself: Many foster parents report that they have developed an ability to love their fosters but not get too overly fond of them. They understand that by maintaining the status of foster parent, they can help many, many more cats than they could if they kept adopting everyone.

Fostering is truly one of the most important ways you can help save more cats in your area. Why not give it a try?"

**Loony Paws Retro Pop Art
Black Cat Winter Cats
Multicolor Cushion Cover
Sofa Throw Pillow Covers**

<https://looneypaws.com/retro-pop-art-black-cat-winter-cats-multicolor-cushion-cover-sofa-throw-pillow-covers/>



Is Marshmallow Going to Stick?

By Chris Daniels

This is Marshmallow who has been with us well over one year and thanks to our wonderful volunteer, Melissa Hentz, has been receiving the TLC that she needed to land a forever home. Marshmallow is between 6 and 7 years and came from a collapsing home in West Philly. Thankfully, our brave rescuers were there in time! Marshmallow has a new little sister (pictured here) Ava. Looks like Marshmallow struck it rich! Just as her name implies it looks like this adoption is going to stick.



Volunteer Corner

Adoption Day Volunteers **HELP NEEDED**

Become more than just a volunteer get to know others who share your love of animals.

We are looking for volunteers to man Adoption Days this summer. Please contact Chris Daniels at 610 277 6187 or email the coordinator of the venues listed below (see page 6 for more details) if you are available on the following dates to help find homes for our kitties and dogs. Adoption days probably account for half of the adoptions made by Spay and Save and we are experiencing a shortage of help as some of our older volunteers have begun to move on. If you are willing to spend a couple hours (usually from 12 Noon to 4 PM) one weekend a month it would be appreciated.

Duties can include:

- ♥ Set up and take down of cages,
- ♥ Transport of dogs and cats to the venues,
- ♥ Taking applications and interviewing potential adopters,
- ♥ And an opportunity to talk with your fellow volunteers about your favorite dog or cat without impunity.

July 7 or August 4th	July 14 or August 11th	July 21 or August 18th	July 28 or August 25th
Gateway Pet Valu Dogs	Sears Hardware Dogs	Limerick Petco Cats	Exton Petco Cats
Limerick Petco Cats	Gateway Pet Valu Cats		Roxborough Pet Valu Cats
	Exton Petco Cats		

Surely you have a weekend this summer you can devote to helping a kitten or puppy find a new home?

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Date	Event Location	Coordinators
1 st Saturday	Gateway Pet Valu (Dogs)	Ginny Shaffer
1 st Saturday	Limerick Petco	Alicia Ferraioli
2 nd Saturday	Sears Hardware (Dogs)	Paula Wenke
2 nd Saturday	Gateway Pet Valu	Janet Lynch
2 nd Saturday	Exton Petco	Morag Steskal
3 rd Saturday	Limerick Petco	Madelyn Ferraioli
4 th Saturday	Exton Petco	M Steskal/CDaniels
4 th Saturday	Perk Valley Pet Eatery	Susan Trombadore
4 th Saturday	Roxborough Pet Valu	Kathy Plover

I thought I would use this little box under events to promote events outside our organization that might interest our volunteers. I was looking for Holidays and Observances outside of the usual Flag Day and July 4th. Check out www.Holidays-and-observances.com. Here are some I found I think I will celebrate:

***July:** National Dog House Repairs Month
Air Conditioning Appreciation Month
National Strawberry Sundae Day - July 7
Don't Step on a Bee Day - July 10*

***August:** DOGust Universal Birthday for Shelter Dogs - August 1
Sneak Some Zucchini onto Your Neighbor's Porch Night - August 8
International Cat Day - August 8
Clear the Shelters Day - August 18, 2018*

Summertime and The Living is Easy



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