

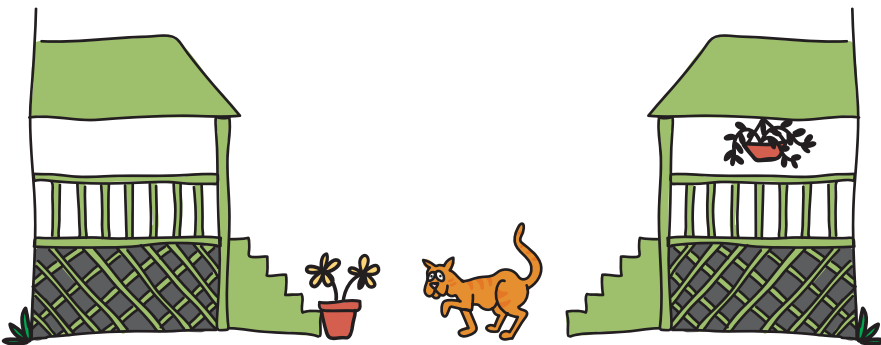
FOCUS ON FELINES

Addy and Sam took on a task,
Finding cats was their objective.
In a way, I guess you could say
They were each a cat detective.

They started walking down their street
When they spotted a furry one.
It was Jessie in Miss Martha's house
Soaking up the sun.



Then they saw this tiny cat
Walking slowly down the street.
Wandering from porch to porch
In search of food to eat.



"I've seen that cat before," said Addy.
"All she does is roam.
It's as if she's searching for
a family and a home."

"What about the cats down there
Who live under the shed?
I've tried to pet them many times,
But they just run ahead."

"The kitties there were born last year
and that one is the mother.
They all live in a colony
And rely on one another."

Cats who live together
In a colony-type setting
Are not used to people
And they don't like hugs or petting.

They often find a source of food
And somewhere safe to hide.
"Community cats" are what they're called
And they prefer to live outside.

Ideally, we would like a person
In each and every city
To get them fixed and watch the health
of each community kitty.

Once the day was over with,
They felt they were aware
That there were many types of cats,
each needing special care.




DEAR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND TEACHERS:

The story on the back and the worksheet below were designed to help kids understand that it is everyone's responsibility to keep cats safe within their community. We encourage you to have ongoing discussions with your children and their friends about the importance of spaying or neutering pets. For more activities, please visit

bestfriends.org/events/best-friends-family-fun.



1. Was the cat in Miss Martha's window a pet cat, stray cat or community  ?

2. What is the difference between a stray cat and a community  ?

3. Which cats live in a colony?

4. Sometimes a person will volunteer to be a caregiver of a colony. What types of things does the caregiver do for the colony?

5. What did  and  discover while they were cat detectives?

6. Stray cats tend to wander from house to house in search of what?

7. Have you or your friends ever adopted a stray  ?

8. List three things that you have observed while watching your cat or your friends' cats.

9. What do community cats rely on one another for?

10. Compare community cats to your family. What do you have in common?

Best Friends is excited to partner with you and other kids all across the country to save homeless pets. Together, we can Save Them All!