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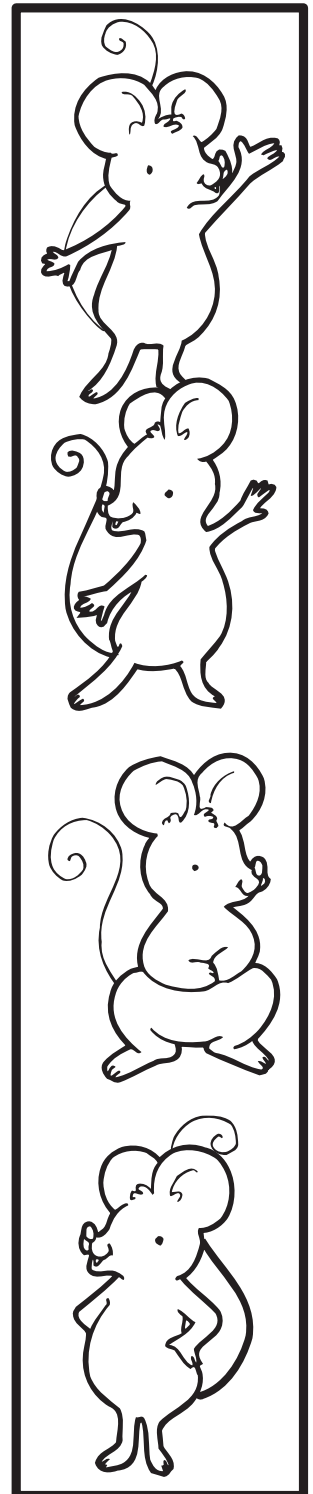
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# CATS

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## Introduction

- **Let's Read:**

*Have You Seen My Cat?* by Eric Carle.

A little boy looks everywhere for his lost cat. Along the way, he passes a lion, a jaguar, a panther, a tiger and other members of the cat family. Finally, he locates his cat ... and her new kittens.

- **Let's Talk:**

Talk about pets. Let children share the names of their pets and describe the types of animals they own. Children without pets can imagine and describe their ideal pets. Ask if anyone in your class has ever lost a pet. Have the children describe how they felt and tell the class what happened. Did they make signs and put them up around the neighbourhood? Did they ask neighbours for help? If you don't have any classroom pets, you might consider 'adopting' an insect or worm for a day.

- **Let's Learn:**

When kittens are born, their eyes and ears are closed. They cannot hear or see. Kittens sleep on top of one another to keep warm. Kittens open their eyes when they are about a week old. Their ears open, too. Kittens crawl at two weeks. By four weeks old, they walk slowly. When kittens are five weeks old they are very playful. They can drink milk from a saucer, instead of nursing from their mother. At eight weeks old, kittens are ready to leave their mother. This is the best age to get a kitten as a pet.

Refer to the **Nonfiction Resources** for books about domestic cats, wild cats and kittens.



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# CATS

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## Let's Create: A Purrfect Pet

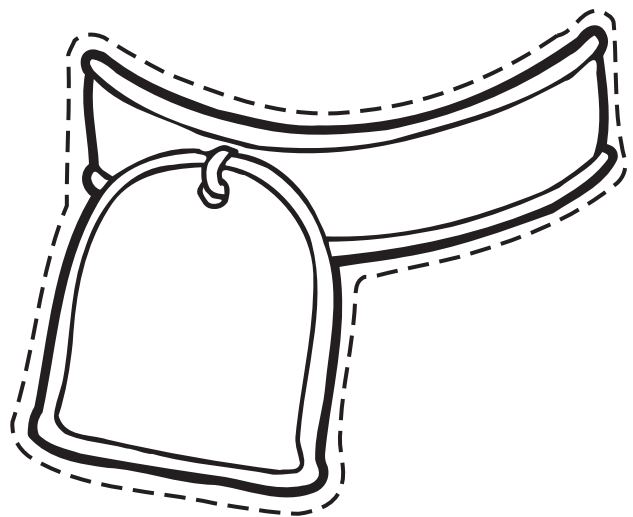
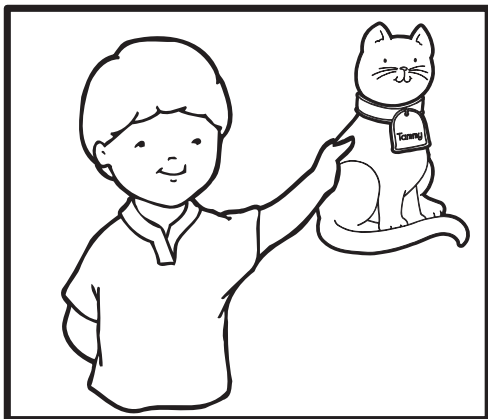
The little boy in *Have You Seen My Cat?* needs help finding his lost pet. Children can create their own pet and pet tag in this activity. Discuss with your children the need for identifying their pets.

### What You Need:

'I'm a Cat' pattern (p. 18), Name Tag pattern (bottom of this page), crayons or textas, scissors, hole punch, wool, glue

### What You Do:

1. Make a copy of the 'I'm a Cat' pattern and Name Tag pattern for each child to cut out.
2. Provide crayons or textas for children to use to decorate their cats.
3. Help children make up names for their pets and print the names on the Name Tag patterns.
4. Demonstrate how to punch a hole at the top of each Name Tag pattern and thread through with a length of wool.
5. Children can glue the wool collars to the cat pictures.
6. Pin the completed cats on a 'Purrfect Pets' bulletin board.



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# CATS

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## Let's Create: Mittens for Kittens

Once children learn the famous nursery rhyme, they'll be all ready to make mittens for the three little kittens.

### What You Need:

Mitten patterns (p. 10), nursery rhyme (p. 16), scissors, crayons or textas, hole punch, wool

### What You Do:

1. Make a copy of the Mitten patterns for each child.
2. Provide crayons or textas for children to use to decorate the mittens.
3. Demonstrate how to punch a hole in the top of each Mitten pattern and thread through with wool.
4. Pin the completed mittens on a 'Mittens for Kittens' bulletin board. Pin a copy of the nursery rhyme in the centre of the board.

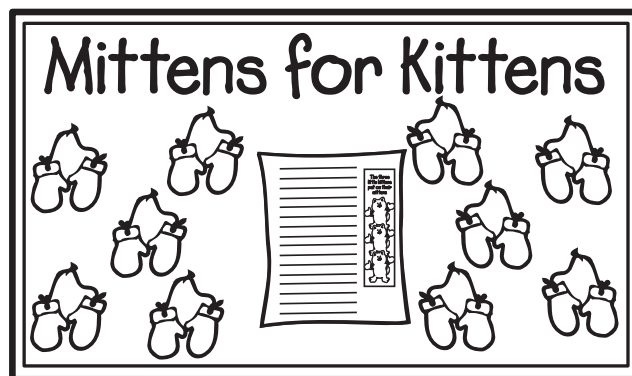
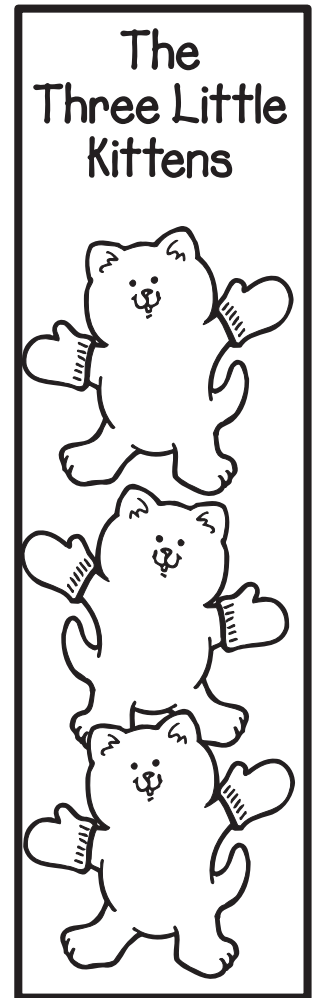
### Options:

- Mix glue with glitter and let children paint it on their finished mittens to add an extra sparkle.
- Pin a copy of the 'I'm a Cat' pattern in the centre of the board to serve as the mother cat in the rhyme.

### Book Link:

- *The Three Little Kittens* by Marilyn Janovitz.

This retelling of the famous nursery rhyme has delightful pictures of the three little kittens.



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# MITTEN PATTERNS

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