











# TIPS

## TO HELP YOUR KIDS BECOME COOL KITTY OWNERS

Cats make great pets but can be sensitive and scared easily. Children and cats can live and play together wonderfully, provided they respect one another.

Help your children to understand how your cat is feeling, to avoid any unnecessary bites and scratches.

-  Ask children to use their quiet voice, sit calmly, and let the cat come to them for attention. Rapid movements and loud voices may excite or frighten cats.
-  Stroke cats slowly and gently, and in the direction of the hair along their back. Most kitties also enjoy rubs behind the ears and under their neck.
-  Do not touch a cat's tummy. It can be a sensitive area and they may bite or scratch.
-  If a cat struggles or tries to get away, let go. Ask children not to chase, overcrowd or corner a cat.
-  If a cat's ears are flat, its eyes are wide and its tail swishing then it's not happy and should be left alone.
-  When playing with a cat, always use appropriate toys. Teasing or trying to entice the cat to catch your hands or fingers is not a good idea.
-  Do not disturb a cat that is sleeping, eating or using the litter box.
-  Toddlers should never be left alone with a cat. Toddlers can become energetic and accidentally hurt or frighten a cat. If a cat is frightened, it may bite or scratch. You should always supervise any playtime with your toddler.
-  Cats should have a 'quiet space' where they can be left alone. This may be a room (you might choose to keep the litter box in there as well) or even a space under a bed.
-  An ideal piece of furniture for a cat is a tall cat perch. Cats love having a high place to sit, it makes them feel safe and secure.

