

## Nimai & Syama From Neglect to Love: Lesson Plan

### Summary

1. Read the first story in the book with the class.
2. Comprehension Questions
3. Cat Behaviour Worksheet (one per student).
4. Make cat toys and donate to shelter animals

### Comprehension Questions

Ask the comprehension questions below going back through the book with the class where necessary.

1. What were the names of the cats? **Nimai and Syama**
2. Which one was black and which one was white? **Nimai (white) Syama (black)**
3. Which cat was more scared? **Syama**
4. Where did the cats live at the beginning of the story? **Garden next door**
5. Did they have a good owner? If not why not? **No food, shelter, or affection**
6. How did Syama show he was scared? **Scratch, hiss, run away, ears flat**
7. Why did the lady spend two months wearing scarf and gloves with the backdoor open? **Because the cat ran out if she tried to shut the door and she didn't want him to be cold.**

### Cat Behaviour Worksheet



Ask the students to draw and label the body postures associated with happy cats and scared cats then finish the statement 'when I stroke a cat I should...'. The students will be able to find the answers in the infographic after the first story in the book and within the story.

**Happy Cats:** tail-up, ears facing forwards, relaxed body language, friendly, rub their face on you, blink at you slowly.

**Scared Cats:** scratch, hiss, hunched and still, ears flat, lick lips, run-away, hide.

### When I stroke a cat I should...

Speak quietly, let them approach me, be gentle, let them sniff my hands first, let them go when they have had enough.

## Caring Crafts: Cat Toys

Ask the class if they would like to do something to help cats in need, then tell them you are going to make toys cats in rescue centres.



### Materials

- Felt or pom poms
- Marker pens (non toxic)
- Elastic string
- firm plastic straws.
- Hole punch

### Teacher Preparation

- Cut fabric into shapes like mice, birds or fish x number of students
- Cut lengths of elastic roughly 30-60cm x number of students
- Punch one hole in each piece of fabric
- Punch one hole in each straw

In order for the students to put together the toys so that they are safe for cats, the elastic string will need to be tied rather than glued or stapled to both the stick and the piece of felt fabric, so you will need to make holes in the straws and pieces of felt for threading the elastic. If the students are old enough then they can punch the holes and cut the fabric into shapes themselves, if not you will need to prepare holes for threading the elastic.

### Instructions

1. Colour in design on felt/fabric
2. Tie elastic through hole in straw and hole in felt/fabric
3. Voila finished cat toy

