

# The Life of a Cat

BY GAVIN KIEPER

CEDAR CREST  
INTERMEDIATE

5-BELL

The Egyptians were the first people to have respect for cats. A cat is one of the most interesting mammals on Earth. Their bodies are flexible and agile. Their whiskers help guide them through spaces. There are many different breeds with different design patterns. Cats are able to survive in-

doors and outdoors because of these unique features.

A common myth is that cats have nine lives. It's not known where the myth came from, but it might have to do with their agility and great dexterity, which means flexibility. Another reason could be that cats have what is called a righting reflex. This is an ability to twist around in the air when dropped from a high place, and land on their feet. The myth exists in many cultures. In those cultures, the number of lives that cats have range from 6-9 years.

The reality is cats have 1 life and it is usually between 12-20 years. This depends on their breed and if they are an indoor or outdoor cat.

When humans are born their eyes are open. Kittens however, are born with their eyes closed. The reason is their eyes are not completely formed. There is a protective seal that helps keep them shut until they are strong enough to open on their own. Kittens don't need to see to find their mother. They use touch and body heat to find her.

Cats use a few other tools they are born with to help them get around. Ears are shaped like satellite dishes to help them hear. They hear almost 3 times better than dogs, and 5 times better than humans. Another tool is whiskers. Not all cats have whiskers, but most do. The whiskers are located on their faces and the backs of their front legs. These help the cat decide if a space is big enough to go through. Since cats are curious, this can help keep them out of trouble.

An average house cat weighs between 8 and 15 lbs. The male cat weighs between 11-15 lbs, and the female cat weighs between 8-12 lbs. Most of the breeds are full grown by the time they turn a year old. The exception is the American Shorthair which will take 3-4 years to become fully grown. Interesting fact isn't it?

In 2016 TICA (The International Cat Association), recognized 58 breeds of cats. Some of these are Siamese, Maine Coon, American Shorthair, Sphynx, and the

Persian. The most popular breed of cat is the Persian. It has been #1 since 1871 when records began being kept. Persians are great cats, but need to be brushed every day.

As you can see, a cat is one of the most interesting mammals on Earth. With a righting reflex, extraordinary hearing, and whiskers that keep them safe, it's easy to see how the nine lives myth is believable. Their beautiful patterns and their soft, furry coats will keep the cat a popular pet.

# Our New Brother is Born

BY MALLORY CROWLEY

CEDAR CREST  
INTERMEDIATE

5-HARRIS

Let me introduce you to my family. My mom Jodie, my dad Charles or Charlie sometimes you might find people calling him Chuck. My younger sister Madelyn she is fifteen months younger than me. Then my NOT born which is about to be born brother.

We are living in Newburgh our family is so excited guess why, we are moving to Huntingburg near the Birdseye junction. My brother and mom were still in the hospital a few days later. My dad told me and my sister to go get in the car that we were going to see your mom and A.J. I yelled, "his name is

A.J." My dad said, "he can be called three different names A.J., Alex or, Alexander. His real name is Alexander James Crowley." My sister said, (with sass) "I know it's Crowley because my last name is Crowley." I said, "everybody in this family of five has the same last name." My dad said, "very well Mallory." I was so happy but in a weird way I didn't know what to say. A metal chair flew off of the red pickup truck that we have been following and almost hit my dad's front of his car. He grabbed the steering wheel and yanked it to the left. To this day I can still feel the butterflies in my stomach.

All the sudden I felt like I was going to throw up. I did not feel good. My dad still had a red face after fifteen - twenty minutes of driving. My sister was so mad at me, and I didn't know why. Five minutes later we finally ar-

rived at the hospital. I was so happy because I was going to see my mom and brother. When we got there Mom was sleeping my dad said, "shh mom's sleeping be quiet." Me and my sister looked at each other and nodded our heads at each other and ran and jumped on the hospital bed; we were giggling our eyeballs out. Mom yawned and me and my sister went and sat in the beside my mom's chair.

The doctors were getting A.J. ready for a bath; he was naked of course you can't wash your body if you have clothes on. I asked if I could see him? I got a stool and looked at him he had dark hair but not a lot he was skinny not fat but not skinny. He looked back at me then his face turned dark red; I got so worried I said, "is my baby brother ok?" Then I screamed, he peed in my face I was so mad I ran in

circles saying, "get it off get it off! My dad started laughing at me. He went and got a washcloth and wiped my face. Then I said, "That is so much better." Till this day I can still remember the smell the drizzle when it landed on my face! It sometimes gives me the shivers. There is not one day I can not think about it. Right when A.J. was allowed to come home we were in a middle of a huge move. It took a while to move. We finally were in our new house. My mom said, "youngster what have you gotten into lately?" As time went by what my mom called a rash kept getting bigger. It started to spread. My mom, me, and, my sister went to a skin doctor. It took more than 5 doctors to test him. When he was 4 years old the doctors put twelve shots in his back and gave him twelve suckers the size of a dum dum sucker for each shot. We sat and sat. The doctor came in the room and said, "he had a skin disease called Eczema. It will be there for the rest of his life because it is so strong." The doctor gave my mom a bag of medicine. The medicine made him scratch less. It was a very quite long ride home. For A.J.'s birthday his birthday was the first one at the new house. There were thirteen balloons; 7 were blue 6 were red. It was the biggest birthday party I've ever seen in my whole life. Cars filled our top and bottom driveway! People even were parking in the grass! My mom said, "I don't think I invited them I think they just came." My dad was grilling a brisket cut from a cow his stomach! There were three tables with a bunch of gifts.

All I know was my little brother had a great time. THE END  
Sincerely,  
Mallory Crowley

# Beyond Earth

BY JOSHUA WILHITE

CEDAR CREST  
INTERMEDIATE

5-SCHROERING

Do you know what is way beyond Earth? Well, on this trip through space you will. T-10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 blast off!!!... Wow!! Look at the moon! Did you know the moon is 1,079k mi long. But other than the moon there are billions of galaxies and all of space is called the universe!! But you can not go to these galaxies because they are light years away, but here is the name of one of those galaxies: Andromeda. You can see them through a telescope, and almost every single one is beautiful. However, we will probably will not see other galaxies in real life. For example, a rocket needs a certain amount of fuel, and I am sure a rocket can't hold enough fuel. The sun on the other hand is incredible.

Did you know there are millions of stars in the universe? But we only get one star for light and heat. We also get seven other planets. We can study and learn about the the galaxy and universe. But we can only land on the moon out of all the planets and galaxies. Also tonight try and make some time to go out at night and look through a telescope and look at our planets.

# Woo Hoo: A memoir

BY MADISON LINDAUER

CEDAR CREST  
INTERMEDIATE

5-MEYER

What is black and white and lives in a basement? Nope, it isn't a skunk. Today is April 15, 2015. It's the day that we started thinking how to build our new house! It was a good day because everybody got up on the right side of the bed.

First, we asked our builder to please come to where we wanted to build, so he did. Everybody got there by 12:00 pm and then we started planning. Next, we did the dimension of the house. Then, we drew a floor plan of the house. When we finally got finished it was 4:00 pm. After a couple of months passed, we started digging and putting down floors. When we started digging the basement we found tons of rocks. They were everywhere! When we were done digging, there was a big pile of dirt, it was as big as 2 elephants stacked on top of each other. It was so much fun because it was steep and big. When my brother and I climbed to the top we pretended to be the king of the mountain. Then we ran down it. When the day was over our clothes had mud and dirt all over them. My brother Nolan, even had mud on his face, and our hands were so dirty. Even though Nolan's hands were dirty he was still sucking his thumb. Eww! Two days after we put down floors. We had to get a ton of plywood to put down on open areas. It was so scary because you had to get a big piece of it to put down one by one and put screws down to make them stay. Once we were done putting plywood down we went downstairs and there was a group of birds living in a pipe. We had to get them out before we closed up the basement. The day after that my mom and I were cleaning the basement as my mom screamed and it made me jump. I asked her, "What is wrong?" She said, "There is something black and white in the corner, I think it is a skunk!" I was really worried because I didn't want to get sprayed by the skunk. It ran away because my mom screamed like a she was on a roller coaster. We saw that it wasn't a skunk as it ran by us,

we were lucky. It was a black and white cat. We opened the basement door and chased it out.

About a month later, we put up the frames for the house structure. This was the hard part. The builder has to get the right size of wooden frames with the exact measurements and more. When Matthew, our builder, and his workers put them up, I was amazed on how they could do it all at one time. Then they put the dry-wall up, which my dad helped too. Everyday we had to come to the house and clean up their mess otherwise the house would be a disaster. There was drywall everywhere, even in places you wouldn't expect it to be. It was really frustrating because everytime we cleaned it up, they would make more of a mess the next day. After they finished with the drywall, another company put the insulation in for us. We all helped out with the insulation. My dad was on a ladder and I had to hand the pink insulation up to him. Everybody helped except my brother. He laid a blanket down on the floor and took a nap.

Next, we started plastering the walls. After the plaster was dry, we had to be very careful and wipe any excess plaster that needed to come off. The walls were prepped and ready to be painted. My mom and some friends started painting the whole house and finished in only 3 days. I asked my mom before she painted my room, "Can I have some stripes on my wall?" She said, "I guess." So my mom painted several shades of purple stripes on my bedroom wall for a special treat for me. It was very pretty! After all the painting was completed, we started putting cabinets, toilets, showers, sinks, appliances, and lights. Finally our new home was finished after 9 long months. It seemed like forever! Here is the lucky part, we actually sold our old house on the same day that we were going to move into our new home.

Now I feel like we have more room to play and run around since our old house was smaller. We also have a bigger backyard to play in and ride our bikes in the country. I feel like I could get lost in our bigger home. I'm so glad that we decided to build our beautiful new house.

# Walt Disney: A Magical Boy!

BY RAYVEN MEYER

CEDAR CREST  
INTERMEDIATE

5-VERKAMP

Did you know Walt Disney's favorite character is Donald Duck and that the last movie he made was the Jungle Book in 1967. Did you also know that the first disney princess he made was Snow White and the last disney princess Walt made was Fa Mulan. There's a lot of interesting things about Walt Disney.

Walt Disney was born in Chicago Illinois on Dec. 5, 1901. He was one of five children, four boys one girl. His brothers were Roy O. Disney, Raymond Arnold Disney, and Herbert Arthur Disney. His sister is Ruth Flora Disney. Walt's mom Flora Call Disney, Died of

Asphyxiation caused by gas fumes. Walt's wife Lillian Disney died of a stroke on Dec. 16 1997.

Walt went to School of the Art Institute in Chicago in 1911-1917. Which was good, because he was very creative. Walt was very smart to image what characters to draw. If he wasn't born, we wouldn't have Mickey Mouse and believe me a LOT more.

In 1966, Walt Disney was diagnosed with lung cancer. It was a sad time. Soon later Walt Disney died of it that same year. He once said, "I only hope that we never lose sight of one thing That it was all started by a mouse. All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them. It's kind of fun to do the impossible."

He was cool, creative, and smart. Don't forget it.

# Forest Park Rangers

BY KRISTOPHER FUHRMAN

CEDAR CREST  
INTERMEDIATE

6-BILDERBACK

The Forest Park Rangers Boys Basketball team is made up of outstanding basketball players.


The Forest Park Boys Basketball moved right through

the high-school basketball tournament. After the sectional game they thought that they were happy. The whole town was happy for them. For those of you who did not hear about the sectional, regional, and semi state wins, they were exciting. In the sectional Noah Fleck did an amazing fade away and made a three point buzzer beater. In regional the

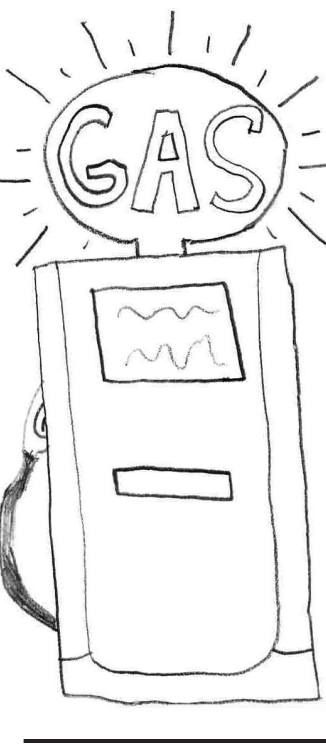
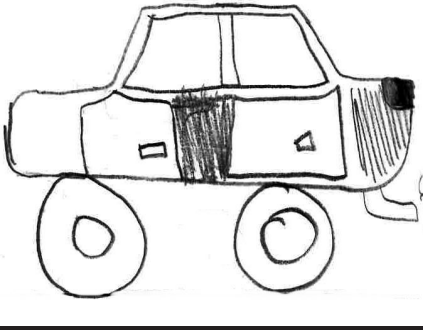
team made through the first round easily. In the second round the Rangers squeezed through and won it! In semi state the Rangers won by 8 points because of their great free throw shooting. After these wins the whole town was overjoyed! Probably the most excited fans were the parents and the seniors! Congratulations to the team and the parents!


NAME: Ava  
GRADE: 5 SCHOOL: Cedar Crest


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