

Smol2Swol

2021 ANNUAL MEWSLETTER

Wishing you a Happy Swolstice!



Thank you for being part of
the S2S community!

Having a community helps
us adopt kittens to loving
forever homes

With our deepest
gratitude to the Small
Miracles Cat and Dog
Rescue!

Small Miracles staff and
volunteers are the
heroes who make S2S
possible

Thank you for a wonderful 2021!

The Smol2Swol intensive kitten training purrogram achieved great things in 2021! We hosted four full classes and one remeowdial class, graducating twenty-six kittens and five momcats in total. This year, our classes set course records for class size and most students on deck at once (13!), and tied past years for fighting spirit. 2021 was a challenging, eventful year for many and S2S was no different. The Swolidays give us an oppuurrtnunity to learn from our students by celebrating triumphs and mourning losses, all the while cultivating resilience in the face of adfursity and joy in the (fuzzy) little things in life.

S2S hisstorians keep extensive records of the development and training progress of each class, and make those records available here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/kb8QBNcKYao9Dk2K6> . We hope that they bring you joy in the dark days of winter.

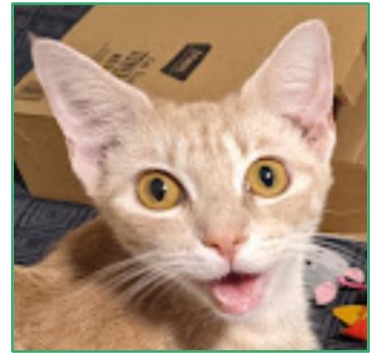
Our course instructors wish you Happy Swolidays and a healthy New Year!



Purrogram Philosophy

S2S is a rigorous, science-based program that aims to save fuzzy lives and enrich human lives. We foster abandoned and stray cats, teach their kittens to be gentle companions, and then send them to out into the world to bring love and joy to their adopters. Our instructors/cat doulas specialize in supporting pregnant cats, and raising the kittens to know a world that has only shown them kindness.

Smol2Swol recognizes that many of our fosters arrive under stressful circumstances. Our commitment to unconditional pawsitive regard is heavily influenced by Rogers' "On becoming a purrson," and we strive to provide an environment of Nurturing, Organization, and Mutual Snuggling (NOMS) to ensure that all students have the chance to achieve pawthentic happiness.



VOICES OF S2S

The S2S communications strategy is structured around adorable pictures, puns of varying quality, language drawn from elite training units, and fictional events. Social media engagement is conducted by our Director of Nommunications and our Minhisster of Purropaganda.

Find us on swolcial media!
@smol2swol_fosters



The newsletter brought to you by the Smol2Swol preditorial team.



Class Photos

The next pages, contain photo spreads of each of the classes of 2021, in order of their arrival at the S2S furrilities.

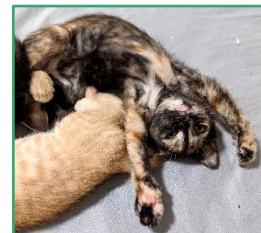
Beasts.....pg 4
Sandwiches.pg 5
Baked Goods..pg 6
Philosofurs...pg 7
Toys.....pg 8



Upcoming events

Smol2Swol is committed to the psychosocial development of our fosters. Early swocialization, in which students can interact with their human admirers, is key to developing compassion for and gentleness with human companions. In 2022, we are offering three kit-together options:

S2S emphasizes development of both the body and the mind, leading naturally to kitten yoga. Humans can breathe, stretch, or simply feline around as kittens cavort and contort around them. Join us for our next Caturday experience; pawsitive vibes only. **#NAMEOWSTE**



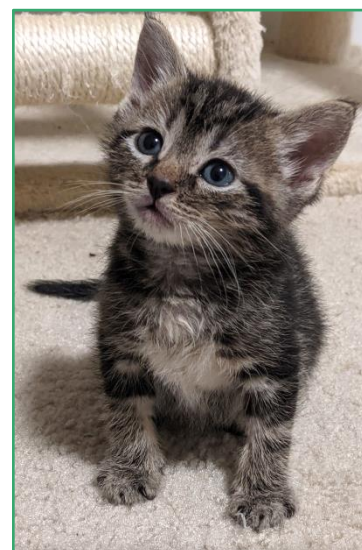
New in the 2022 schedule is **#CATILLION**, in which guests can dance amongst the fluffiest purrtners you'll ever see. Furmal attire is not required but it is prefurred. As Meowtha Graham said, "Dance is the hidden language of the soul."

Many of our purrspective currents have more sophisti-cat-ed tastes, so we are delighted to offer a **#TEAPURRTY**. Inviteas will sip their favorite blend in a highly civilized environment as the human discuss classical litterature, meowsic, and painting. As Sigmund Furreud said, "Time spent with cats is never wasted".

Smol2Swol Class Word Search!

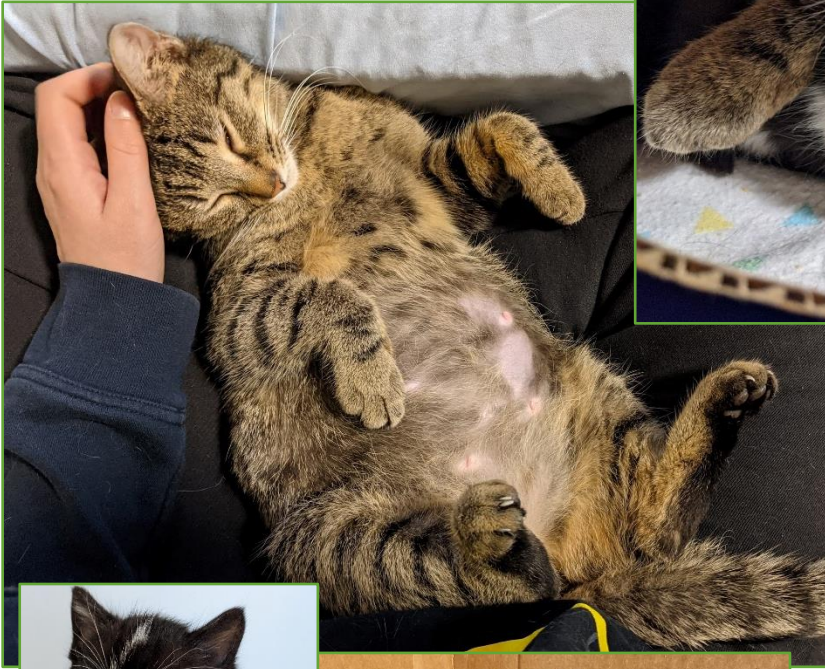
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A K H C Q R B Y I F X O S P F
F L H D A E X Q I M O T D R S
B Z D O A M C N M W E A O E M
M Z E S U S P E J N A U O S A
A J T F J E T F A Z K M G I L
R S P O O C S L I C S P D D L
N Z B E L I P H S R D D E E M
X P P H X P F W Y E E S K N I
A U C U F S X U V Q I S A T R
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U B E B I D N V F T H L R S L
C O F F E E S C Y D O T O E E
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<i>Baked goods</i>	<i>Beasts</i>
<i>Campfires</i>	<i>Coffees</i>
<i>Philosophers</i>	<i>Pies</i>
<i>Planets</i>	<i>Presidents</i>
<i>Sandwiches</i>	<i>Scoops</i>
<i>Spices</i>	<i>Toys</i>
<i>Small Miracles</i>	

Zooey arrived at S2S very round and very anxious, and spent several weeks relaxing with our psychological support staff before welcoming her kittens. Penguin, Puffin, and Panther grew into extremely sweet, gentle, and formally-dressed **Beasts**.



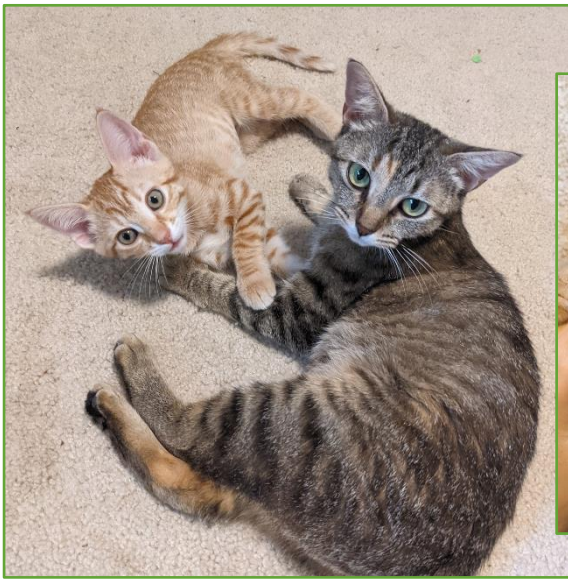


Sisters Brioche and Pumpernickel co-raised their litters, nurturing all ten kittens together. The **Sandwiches** class arrived severely ill and malnourished, and fought hard to survive. Early on we mourned the loss of three of the class, and celebrated as the rest pulled through. Cheddar, Colby Jack, Mayo, Tuna, Ham, Avocado, and Pepper grew into some of our most gentle and affectionate graducats ever.



In Memorium:
Pickle, Tomato, and Bacon
Fierce, beautiful little fighters





*Patissiere and her three **Baked Goods**, Gingerbread, Cinnamon Roll, and Honeybun, were our orangest class yet! These little sweets were fairly advanced students when they arrive, so they enrolled in our Certificat Purrogram rather than the full training course.*

Pictured in the upper right: the Baked Goods waiting patiently, and with gratitude, for their first vaccines.



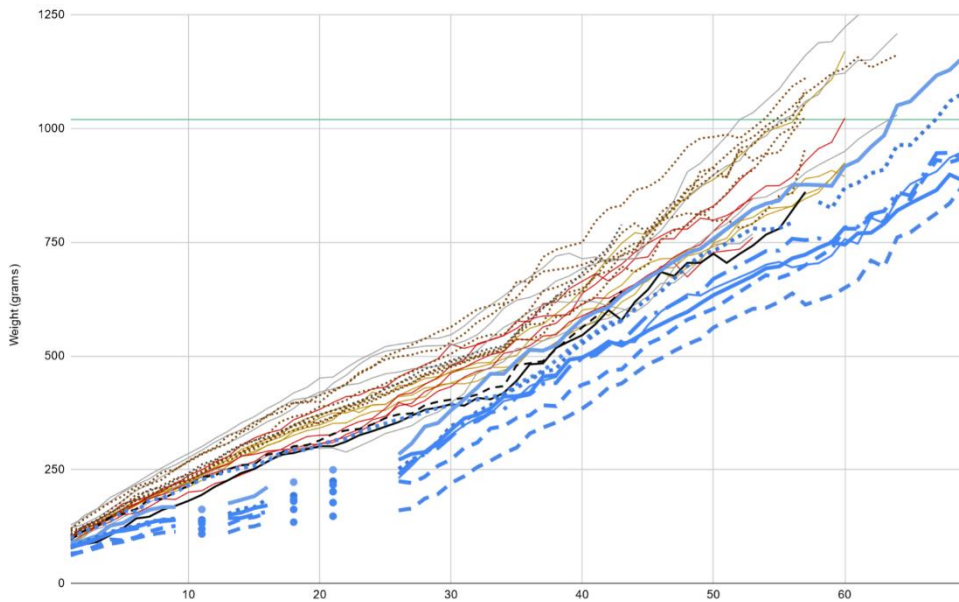
Philosofurs Marcus Purrelius, Senecat, Aristotail, Playtoes, and Socates, arrived with no class leader. These little snugglers quickly mastered the kitten skill training modules under the meowntorship of S2S feline catdre, while providing ample opportunities for puns.

Mama Sandy Claws happily guided her little **Toys**, our largest class yet, to graduation. Ping-Pong, Tonka, Slinky, Yo-yo, Scooter, Puzzle, Kazoo, and Frisbee arrived very underweight - about two weeks behind scheduled gainz – but full of spirit and appetite. Purrogram staff were impressed by how the toys nurtured their tiniest sibling, Ping-Pong, who they were careful to keep in the warm center of their cuddle puddles.



COURSE RECORD
Largest single class!

Chonk Charts



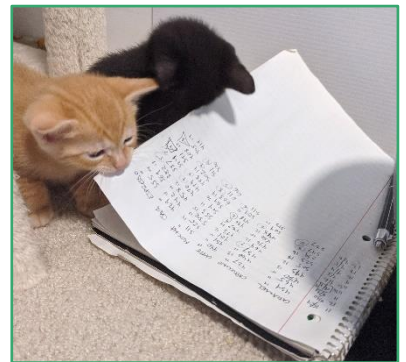
Stats corner

- S2S hosted three classes in 2019, four classes in 2020, and five classes in 2021
 - 5 classes arrived as a catermelon-shaped class leader
 - 4 classes arrived with a class leader and students
 - 3 classes arrived with no class leader
- 72 kitties have enrolled in S2S
- 55 students, 10 class leaders, and 1 auditor have been adopted
- 1 class completed the Remeowdial Swolcialization Course

THE PATH TO PLUMPNESS

Weight loss is often the earliest indi-cat-or of illness in kittens. Daily weigh-ins are the simplest way to monitor kitten health, to detect and treat disease as early as possible.

While critically important for our students' health, daily weight monitoring can be a challenge because kittens view theft of pencils, pens, paper, and other record-keeping tools as a training oppurrtnuity.

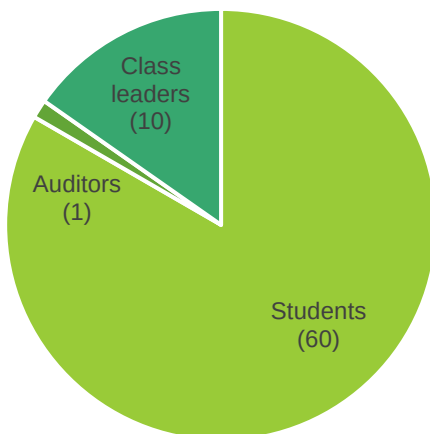


For classes with a known birthdate, weight records can be aligned to observe trends within and across classes.

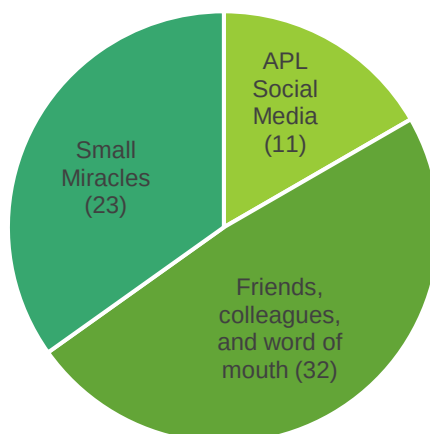
The horizontal green line on the chart indicates the Swole Goal: the weight at which a kitten can be spayed or neutered and adopted.



S2S Purrticipants



S2S Adopters



Where are they meow?

They started so smol, and grew so swole!



Mocha (Coffees, 2020)

Neptune (Planets, 2020)

Cloves (Spices, 2019)

Mars (Planets, 2020)



Sweet Potato & Maple (Pies, 2019)

Cappuccino & Latte (Coffees, 2020)

COMEOWDY CORNER!

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CAT AND A SENTENCE?

A CAT HAS CLAWS ON THE ENDS OF ITS PAWS, AND A SENTENCE HAS A PAUSE ON THE END OF ITS CLAUSE!

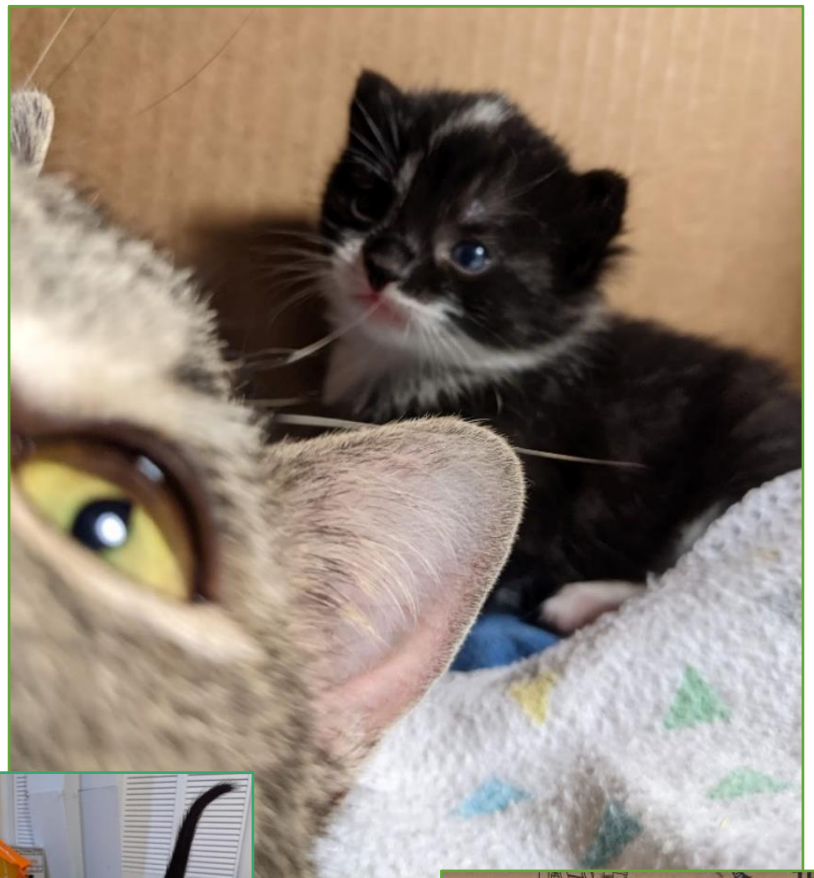




Candid Catmera!

Photographs presented by S2S on our social media accounts are real pictures of real students – we never used trained actors or artificial poses. Our highly skilled graphic design staff carefully select the best photographs to showcase our students' adorability and athletic prowess, but sometimes the photographic evidence of Smol2Swol's great achievements is not quite so sophisti-cat-ed.

From photobombs to stinkeyes, enjoy these outtakes from the S2S photography department!



Kitten Vaccination: saving tiny lives

Kittens are very susceptible to infections, so most rescues begin give foster kittens their first FVRCP combination vaccine at 4-6 weeks old. Getting vaccinated at such a young age protects kittens from several common viruses that can be fatal in kittens, including feline calicivirus, feline rhinotracheitis, and feline panleukopenia (also called distemper).

Much like humans can feel mild flu symptoms after an influenza vaccine, kittens can sometimes experience a mild form of calicivirus called "limping calici", in which they develop a low fever and mild inflammation of the joints in the front legs. Gingerbread (of the Baked Goods class) experienced this vaccine side-effect after her first shot. She had first one sore paw, then two sore paws! She looked like a tiny sad kangaroo, but her spirits were high, and she was feeling back to normal by the next day.

This kind of vaccine reaction, while very pathetic, is mild, transient, and rare. Diseases like panleukopenia are extremely contagious and almost always fatal in young kittens, so getting this vaccine early is the **most** important thing you can do for a kitten's health. We can easily treat bacterial, protozoal or helminthic infections with medications, but we can only provide supportive therapy for viral infections, so prevention is key.

What about rabies?

In the state of Maryland, kittens must be three months of age to receive their first rabies vaccination, so our graducats have typically been adopted by the time they are due for their rabies shot.



A vaccine reaction is no excuse for an S2S student to spend the day in the infirmary! Gingerbread still participated in the day's training, but from a reclined position to avoid putting weight on her front legs.

GOT AN IDEA FOR A NAME THEME?
SEND IT TO US @
SMOL2SWOL@GMAIL.COM!

Alumni Meowntoring Purrogram

In 2021, Theodore Roosevelt (né Smoke, of the Campfire class of 2020), founded our Alumni Meowntoring Purrogram to help troubled students through the soft guiding paw of a feline meowntor. This purrogram aims to provide students with tailored training and entertainment, while also fulfilling the meowntor's own kneads for play and companionship.

The first mentee of the purrogram was Pickle, the malnourished miniature of the Sandwiches class, who underwent several days of lonely intensive care in the infurrmary. The Fluff Rider sat with her while she completed remeowdial food training and stood guard at the door of her heated isolation chamber when she rested, warbling at her to soothe her cries.

When the Philosofurs arrived with no class leader, Theodore waited for hours outside the main furrCILITY's door, loudly insisting that he be allowed inside to comfort the students. He provided the orphaned Philosofurs with training in hunting, etiquette, and gentle paws, through carefully scaffolded lessons couched in the language of play.



Teddy took over training typically conducted by the class leader. He is shown here teaching Aristotle about the purrsuasive power of his soft, spotty belly.

Though she was but little, she was fierce.

- Shakespurr



Course Audits

Regular inspections by trained auditors ensure that course furrCILITES are suited to students' kneads. In 2020 we hosted our first undercover inspector, who entered S2S under the guise of a class leader. While pleasantly plump, she was neither not catermelon-shaped nor starving, so catdre became suspicious.



What let the cat out the bag? The green tattoo on her belly! Lady cats receive this green tattoo following their spay surgery. In addition to serving as a rite of initiation into the International Cat Federation, this tattoo allows human staff in the future to easily determine if the kitty has been fixed.

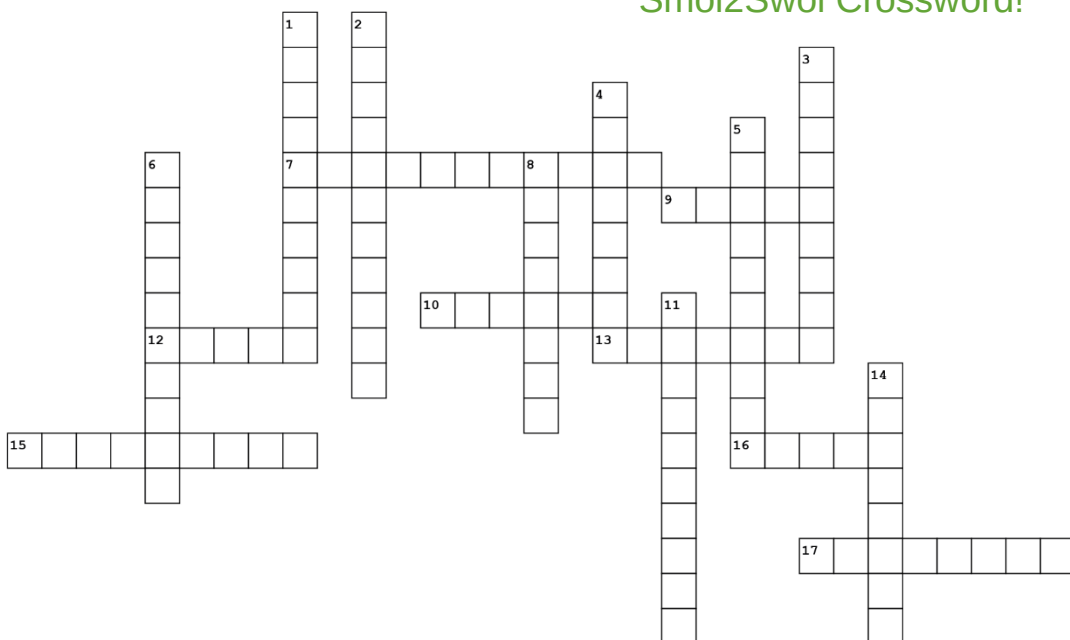
Cats who participate in TNR (trap-neuter-return) programs may also have their ear tipped, which produces an intimidating look, and also allows colony caretakers to see from a distance who has already been trapped.

SKILL SPOTLIGHT: BIG BITES

The psychomotor skills involved in eating solid food are complex and unstable: a student who eats independently at breakfast may cry for help at dinner. The basis of the CHUBB training module (Cultivating Hugeness Using Big Bites) is the Big Bite. Trainees who are not yet adept at the big Bite will scoop up solid food by pushing it with an open mouth across the plate. The result is kittens sitting squarely in the middle of the meal. S2S aims to cultivate creativity among students and catdre alike: Pictured at right is the test run of a prototype food deployment system, which provides a backstop for each kitten to push against while studying the Big Bite skill.



Smol2Swol Crossword!



Across

4. Accelerated course for advanced students
7. Annual recap of S2S activities
9. S2S alum, mentor to new students
10. Nancy's purrview, course structure
12. When S2S news is released
14. Ever-popular kitten hang-out spot
16. Heat-efficient kitten cuddle configuration
17. Weight students need to make to graduat

Down

1. Theme for 2021 class with two leaders
2. Largest number of students to one class leader
3. Small ____ Cat and Dog Rescue
5. Guest ____, S2S community socialization role
6. Proper kitten tail shape
8. Momcat role for class of kittens
11. On kitty feet, or what bouncy kittens are full of
13. Alice, Chief ____ Officer
15. Current tally of S2S classes

SKILL SPOTLIGHT: ORAL HYGIENE

S2S's swolistic view of kitten health aims to empower our students with a range of health-related skills. One such skillset is in oral hygiene, an often-neglected yet critical component of feline health. S2S students learn the basics of oral care and begin to form good habits starting at just a few weeks old.

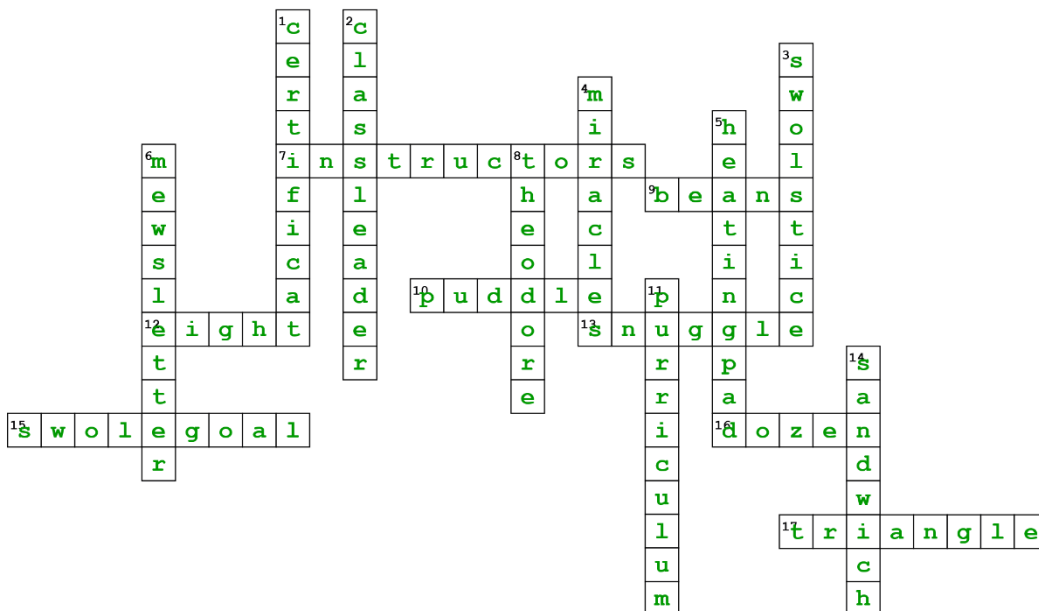


Puzzle answers:

A	K	H	G	Q	R	B	Y	I	F	X	O	S	P	F
F	L	H	D	A	E	X	Q	I	M	O	T	D	R	S
B	Z	D	O	A	M	C	N	M	W	E	A	O	E	M
M	Z	E	S	U	S	P	E	J	N	A	U	O	S	A
A	J	T	F	J	E	T	F	A	Z	K	M	G	I	L
R	S	P	O	O	C	S	L	I	C	S	P	D	D	L
N	Z	B	E	L	I	P	H	S	R	D	D	E	E	M
X	P	P	H	X	P	F	W	Y	E	E	S	K	N	I
A	U	C	U	F	S	X	U	V	Q	I	S	A	T	R
S	E	H	C	I	W	D	N	A	S	V	P	B	S	A
P	H	I	L	O	S	O	P	H	E	R	S	J	O	C
U	B	E	B	I	D	N	V	F	T	H	L	R	S	L
G	O	F	F	E	E	S	C	Y	D	O	T	O	E	E
N	C	A	M	W	L	M	E	S	K	Q	Y	T	R	S
O	D	K	S	X	A	H	O	T	C	I	V	S	F	G



Alumni meowntoring gives kittens someone to look up to.





HAPPY SWOLIDAYS!