

# THE SUGARHOUSE TIMES

ISSUE 3 APRIL 28, 2020

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## Cats vs. Dogs!

By Amalia Santos

This famous rivalry has been going on between pet owners since the beginning of pets. According to the Insurance Information Institute, 42.7 million people have cat(s) in their home, and 63.4 million people have dog(s) however, 94.2 million cats are owned in America whereas 89.7 dogs are owned in America. Dogs win the prize for most people owning them, but there are more cats owned overall. I wrote this debate to find out if there actually is a better pet. (Cue the suspenseful music...)

~^.^~ Cats ~^.^~

According to scientists, around 8,000 years ago cats were attracted to human communities because there were a lot of rodents. As the cats helped control the rodents, the humans realized they liked having cats around. Eventually they adopted them as companions.

Here are some reasons why cats are great pets. Most cat owners agree that cat's needs like beds and food are less expensive than dog's, and because they require less they are also more environmentally friendly. Cats are a lot less work than dogs, so they are less stressful to take care of. You don't have to clean up after them, or take them on walks every single day. Normally, cats are also smaller than dogs so if you don't want a giant pet, cats are a good option. They love cuddling up with you when they sleep, and a cat's purr lowers stress and blood pressure. Because they're so curious, a lot of people like the way cats play. For example, they will do anything to follow a piece of yarn. Cats have some funny behaviors, which makes them amusing to watch. They love to squeeze themselves into places that are way too small, like a Pringles can or a tea kettle! And, whenever a cat sees a cucumber, they jump into the air because they think they've seen a snake.

Lots of people love cats but in ancient Egypt, people really loved cats. Cats were considered demi-gods. They wore fancy jewels and were fed treats that could cost up to 1 million dollars! If people tried to kill a cat they would be sentenced to death. Even today, people still love their cats. In fact, in Mexico a cat named Morris ran for mayor and got 100,000 likes on his Facebook page.

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There's a reason why people believe cats have nine lives. Cats are very strong, on the inside and out. Cats seem to survive situations that would have killed other animals. A cat's kidneys are strong enough to filter out salt in salt water, so they can actually drink salt water and stay hydrated. A cat once fell from a 32 story building and survived without any damage.

Just like 8,000 years ago, cats are still kept today to help keep the rodent population down. In fact, at Disney World there are over 100 cats roaming free that do exactly that. (Funny, because Disney's mascot is a mouse!)

In conclusion, cats just might be the better pet. Cats are less expensive and easier to take care of, help your health, are amusingly curious and help keep mice under control.

## U'x'U Dogs U'x'U

Evidence shows that around 20,000 years ago dogs started to become domesticated pets. They came from a type of gray wolf. Humans noticed that the wolves had skills like guarding and protecting, hunting and herding. Eventually, dogs became the pets that we now have today.

The dog is called man's best friend for many good reasons. Dog owners agree that dogs are more playful than cats. Most cats don't play for a long time; they get bored easier than dogs who can play for hours straight. That's because dogs love being with their owner, whereas cats prefer to be independent.

Dogs make us really happy, found in a recent study dogs are the animal that makes humans the happiest. When you pet, see, or even smell a dog, chemicals in your brain release, making you happier. People also say that their dogs can sense their feelings, and they are right. Studies showed that they are the only animal that can sense the emotions by looking at your face. This is why dogs can be more than just pets, they can be service animals and therapy dogs.

A dog's sense of smell is almost 40 times greater than ours, so the police and military accept dogs as part of their team. They can sniff out chemicals or bombs with their strong nose. Also, a study in Germany found that dogs can sense lung cancer.

In conclusion, cats just might be the better pet. Cats are less expensive and easier to take care of, help your health, are amusingly curious and help keep mice under control.

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In conclusion, dogs might just be the better pet. They are more playful and love to be by your side, they make us really happy, and they're apart of military and police teams because they are so useful.

Hmm, I feel like this might be a tie. I created this poll to find out the real winner amongst Sugarhouse Times readers. [Click this link](#) to take a survey about cats and dogs. The results will be published in issue 4 of the Sugarhouse Times.

## CHOMP! CRUNCH! TURTLE!

BY RUTHIE TYLER

SO, YOU'VE HEARD OF ALLIGATORS AND TURTLES BUT HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF THE ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE? WELL IF YOU HAVEN'T YOU SHOULD READ THIS. THESE CREATURES ARE AMAZING. HERE ARE SOME REASONS WHY.

1. ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLES, (AST) HAVE A REALY STRONG BEAK ON THE FRONT OF THE MOUTH.
2. THEIR BEAK CAN BITE THROGH BONES.
3. THEY EAT SNAKES, FROGS, AND FISH.
4. THE ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE IS THE LARGEST FRESHWATER TURTLE IN NORTH AMERICA AND AMONG THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD. THIS SPECIES IS OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE "DINOSAUR OF THE TURTLE WORLD" BECAUSE OF ITS DINOSAUR LIKE FEATURES.
5. THEY CAN LIVE FROM 50 TO 100 YEARS OLD.
6. MALES CAN GET UP TO 220 POUNDS.
7. ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLES CAN STAY IN THE WATER FOR UP TO 50 MINUTES.
8. THEY GET FISH TO COME IN THEIR MOUTH BY SHAKING A PINK APPENDAGE/TOUNGUE TO ATTRACT FISH.

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## Top 5 Places to Travel to Virtually

By Amalia Santos

1. **Cincinnati Zoo Home Safari.** This zoo in Ohio became famous because of Fiona; a 6 week premature baby hippo who survived because of all the zookeepers that were so determined to keep her alive. The team of people caring for Fiona became known as #teamfiona. Every day at 1pm MST, the Cincinnati zookeepers feature one animal and answer questions that are submitted real time. They also give you a daily activity to do about the animal. <http://cincinnati-zoo.org/home-safari-resources/>
2. **Monterey Bay Aquarium.** On this aquarium's website, there are web cams and animal stories. My personal favorite was the kelp forest cam because it was bustling with life; also, I've just always loved kelp forests because it's so cool to see the way animals live in an underwater forest. web cam link: <https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams>: animal stories link <https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/animal-stories>
3. **San Diego Zoo.** At this website there are videos about each animal, games, and other fun step-by-step activities. My favorite video is about the sloth bear because this was an animal I had never heard of and I learned that it came from a giant sloth that is now extinct. They are a really small bear that loves honey. <https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/>
4. **The Great Wall of China.** This is a great experience. There are 20 3-D panoramas. You can click on the question marks for really cool facts. Every panorama shows a different part of the wall. <http://greatwallofchinavirtualfieldtrip.weebly.com/>
5. **Boston Children's Museum.** This site was amazing! It has science projects, books being read aloud, articles, and more! The science experiments were great for kids of all ages. <https://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/daily-activities>

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## TAKING UP HOBBIES DURING QUARANTINE

BY AMALIA SANTOS

Many people are finding themselves with a lot more time on their hands right now. I've picked up several new hobbies myself, and a lot of people besides me, have too. During a recent family Zoom call, I learned that my Aunt had picked up painting, and she had done quite a few. I wanted to learn more about how she started painting, so I interviewed my Aunt Anne Stimac to investigate more on taking up hobbies during quarantine.

First, I wanted to know what had changed with the way she occupied her time. Stimac says, "I decided that I would take this time to do something I've always wanted to do, which is to paint and I've never painted in my life." Even though it's something she's always wanted to do, she said that if she wasn't in quarantine, she doesn't think she would have taken up painting. The reason, she explained, is that she was never good at it in school. So she was very surprised to find that she was actually good at painting after all these years. "It's not like my paintings will hang on anyone's walls, but I'm able to create something that I like, and I'm proud of," Stimac says.

Now that she's mastered the easier paintings, she's trying to get better at harder skills like paintings that require more details and definition. For example, her latest artwork was koi fish painted on a black bag. Now that she's pushing herself, she finds that it can be more frustrating when she messes up. "When I get a little angry

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with my paintings, I take a break. When I revisit my canvas I see the painting in a whole new light.” She’s also learned that in painting, there is no right or wrong, there is no perfect.

Anne started painting because she wanted help passing the time. After a couple of days, she found that not only does it help keep her busy, but also helps her forget her thoughts and stay calm. So even when quarantine is over, Anne says that she still wants to continue with her painting.

## **Knock Knock, It’s A Riddle!**

- 1. What invention lets you look right through a wall?**
- 2. I am the end of time and space and the beginning of eternity, what am I?**
- 3. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?**
- 4. When you have me, you feel like sharing me, but when you share me, you do not have me. What am I?**

1. A window 2. The letter “E” 3. Footprints 4. A secret

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