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Did you know . . . !

The most famous dog drawn by Charles M. Schulz is Snoopy, the beloved beagle from the comic strip Peanuts. Snoopy is arguably the most famous cartoon canine in history. Snoopy first appeared in the third Peanuts strip on October 4, 1950. His appearance was inspired by Spike, one of Schulz's childhood dogs. Snoopy is often shown sleeping on his to of his doghouse.

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The world's oldest known breed of domesticated dog is the Saluki, believed to have emerged in 329 BC. Saluki dogs were revered in ancient Egypt, being kept as royal pets and being mummified after death. There are carvings found in Sumer (present-day southern Iraq) which represent a dog, closely resembling a Saluki, which date back to 7000 BC.

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SV-MPK - SEPT 2025

HEROIC DOG

In 1954, Tang, a big, friendly collie in Denison, Texas, leaped in front of oncoming vehicles on more than one occasion to rescue children. He often used his strength to push young children to the curb before they could be struck by an oncoming vehicle. Once, Tang firmly planted himself in front of a parked milk truck and refused to move. He barked furiously until he convinced the driver to get out of the truck and look in the back. The surprised driver found the truck's back door was wide open and a 2-year-old girl had wandered inside. Had it not been for Tang, everyone believed the youngster would have fallen out when the truck pulled away.



Fun Trivia



*The Harry Potter series features a wide array of animals, both real and magical. Notable examples include Hedwig, Harry's pet owl; Crookshanks, Hermione's cat; Fang, Hagrid's loyal boarhound; and Buckbeak, a hippogriff. The series also included magical creatures like Fawkes the phoenix, Aragog the Acromantula, and Fluffy the three-headed dog.

*Chinchillas are from South America. They are specifically from Peru, Bolivia, Chile and Argentina, and records show they have been around for at least 1,000 years or more.

*Many famous rabbits come from literature, animation, and popular culture. Some of the most recognizable include Bugs Bunny, Peter Rabbit, the White Rabbit from Alice in Wonderland, Roger Rabbit, and the Easter Bunny. Other notable fictional rabbits include Thumper from Bambi, and Rabbit from Winnie-the-Pooh. The Energizer Bunny, a commercial mascot, is also a famous rabbit.

*The Mayans and Aztecs symbolized every tenth day with the dog, and those born under this sign were believed to have outstanding leadership skills.

*The biggest cat in the world is the Siberian tiger, also known as the Amur tiger (Panthera tigris altaica). They can weigh up to 660 pounds and measure up to 10 feet long.

*Chihuahuas are very popular in Mexico, where they are considered a national symbol. Their popularity stems from several factors: Their cultural significance is deeply rooted in Mexican culture and history, and are believed to have descended from ancient dogs kept by the Toltec civilization.

A FEW SILLY JOKES

- #1: Walking past a veterinary clinic, a woman noticed a small boy and his dog waiting outside. 'Are you here to see Dr Meyer?' she asked. 'Yes,' the boy said. 'I'm having my dog put in neutral.'
- #2: I watched my dog chase his tail for 10 minutes and thought "Wow, dogs are so easily entertained". Then I realized I just watched my dog chase his tail for 10 minutes.
- #3: This morning I saw my neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious the poor woman thought the cat understood her. When I got home I told my dog... we laughed a lot!
- #4: The dog is barking at the back door and the man is yelling at the front door. Who do you let in first? The dog, because he'll shut up when he comes in.



QUIZ



1. What are the only cats that live together in groups?
2. In Mexico, this animal is called a tlacoyote. What is it?
3. What color is the beak of a mature mute swan?
4. What is the name of the cartoon cat who loves lasagna?
5. What animal do we as humans, share the most DNA with?
6. How many glasses of milk can one cow produce in its lifetime?

ANSWERS

1. Lions.
2. American Badger. (Spanish word for badger is tejón).
3. Orange.
4. Garfield.
5. Chimpanzees & Bonobos.
6. Over 200,000.

PAW-SCOPES

DOGS:

Your K9 is loyal and attentive and expects the same trustworthiness from you. He loves routine and all things in order. So, stay in time for feeding and walking him when it's not too hot. Give him a task, and he will work from dawn to dusk, enjoying being helpful and valuable. He'll give you more wags and wiggles than you can handle!

CATS:

Generally speaking, your cat is a charmer...a true social success capable of winning over even the most fervent cat-hater. Cuddles abound and meows are endless, along with those beautiful deep colored eyes that stare at you with such adoration! Who can resist!

Guinness World Records

*The oldest living giant panda in the world is currently Xin Xin, who resides at Chapultepec Park Zoo in Mexico City. She recently celebrated her 35th birthday, making her the oldest panda living outside of China. While Xin Xin holds the title for the oldest living panda outside of China, the title of the oldest giant panda ever in captivity belongs to Jia Jia, who lived to be 38 years old and resided at Hong Kong Ocean Park, reports People.com. Jia Jia's companion, An-An, who also lived at Ocean Park, was the oldest male giant panda in captivity, passing away at 35 years old.

*The first diabetes-detection dog was Armstrong, a yellow labrador retriever trained in 2003 in California to detect via scent the subtle chemical changes leading to hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar), a condition that if left unchecked can cause a diabetic to slip into a potentially fatal coma. So successful was Armstrong that Dogs for Diabetics (D4D), a charity training diabetes detection dogs, was founded in 2004.

Just in case you didn't know,

A bonobo is a type of great ape, scientifically known as *Pan paniscus*, closely related to chimpanzees and humans. They are known for their peaceful social interactions and are found only in the Democratic Republic of Congo, south of the Congo River. Bonobos are characterized by their slender build, dark faces, and a tendency for females to form strong social bonds.

Cat Quiz

Q: When the Cheshire Cat of *Alice in Wonderland* disappears, what is the only thing he leaves behind?

A: His Smile!

Q: The musical CATS is based on a book of poems by which British author?

A: The lyrics of CATS are from T. S. Eliot's 1939 *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*.

Q: What is the real name of DC Comics' Catwoman?

A: Selina Kyle is sometimes called the Princess of Plunder or the Feline Felon.

Q: What is the rarest cat color?

A: The rarest cat color is albinism. This is a genetic condition where a cat lacks all pigment, resulting in a white coat, pink skin, and pink or blue eyes, and is caused by a recessive gene. Unlike white cats that have a masking gene, true albinos have a complete absence of pigment.

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Bird Trivia

*Spectacled Owls can live up to 35 years in the wild and 25-30 years in captivity. While they have few predators in the wild, factors like habitat loss and potential injuries while hunting can affect their lifespan.

*Some species of parrots have been known to live more than 100 years. Cockatoos aren't far behind, sometimes living as long as 75 years.

*The largest known bird's nest was built by a pair of bald eagles near St Petersburg, Florida, USA and measured 2.9 m (9 ft 6 in) wide and 6 m (20 ft) deep. It was examined in 1963 and was estimated to weigh more than 2 tons (4,409 lb).

*The color of a swan's beak varies depending on the species. Mute Swans have orange beaks, while Black Swans have red beaks. Whooper and Trumpeter Swans typically have black beaks.

*The dove is any of certain birds of the pigeon family, Columbidae. The names pigeon and dove are often used interchangeably. Although dove usually refers to the smaller, long-tailed members of the pigeon family, there are exceptions: the domestic pigeon, a rather typical pigeon, is frequently called the rock dove and is the bird portrayed as and called the "dove of peace."

Michael Jackson's chimpanzee, Bubbles, is still alive and well, living at the Center for Great Apes in Florida. He's now 42 years old and lives in a sanctuary with other chimpanzees, enjoying activities like painting and spending time with friends. Bubbles became famous in the 1980s as Michael Jackson's companion, appearing in music videos, on tour, and in photoshoots.

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A dog with one blue eye and one brown eye is said to have heterochromia. This condition, also known as heterochromia iridum, refers to having differently colored irises in each eye. It's caused by variations in the amount of melanin pigment in the iris.

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September is a month marked by significant historical events. Notable occurrences include the end of World War II in the Pacific with the declaration of VJ Day by President Truman, the discovery of the Titanic's wreckage by Robert Ballard, and the September 11th terrorist attacks in the United States. Additionally, September marks the start of National Hispanic Heritage Month and features events like the Battle of Britain Day and the end of World War II in Europe.

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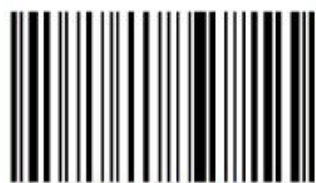
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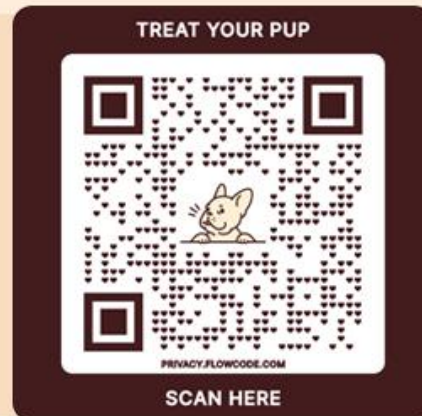
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CAT IDIOMS

Curiosity Killed The Cat

(Stop asking questions, don't be too curious)

Fat Cat

(A highly placed, well-paid executive)



Let the Cat Out of the Bag

(Reveal a secret, usually a secret you or others are trying to keep)

Look What the Cat Dragged In

(Someone unwelcome has arrived)



No Room To Swing A Cat

(Very small, not big enough)

The Cat Is Out of the Bag

(The secret has been revealed)



Fight Like Cat And Dog

(Continually arguing with each other)

Rain Cats And Dogs

(Rain very heavily)



Who's She, the Cat's Mother?

(Why does she have such a high opinion of herself?)

Not Have A Cat In

Hell's Chance

(Have no possibility of succeeding, coming to pass, or achieving something)





DOG Idioms

Dog-Eat-Dog

(Intensely competitive)

Rain Cats and Dogs

(Rain very heavily)



Dog-and-Pony Show

(A flashy presentation, often in a marketing context)

Fight Like Cat and Dog

(Continually arguing with each other)



(The) Tail That Wags the Dog

(A small part of something that controls the whole thing)

Every Man and His Dog

(Many people)



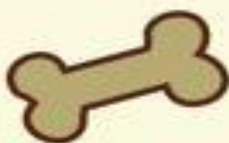
Go to the Dogs

(To become disordered, to decay)

Have a Dog in the Hunt

(Fight, Race)

(To support a certain person in a competition)



Puppy Dog Eyes

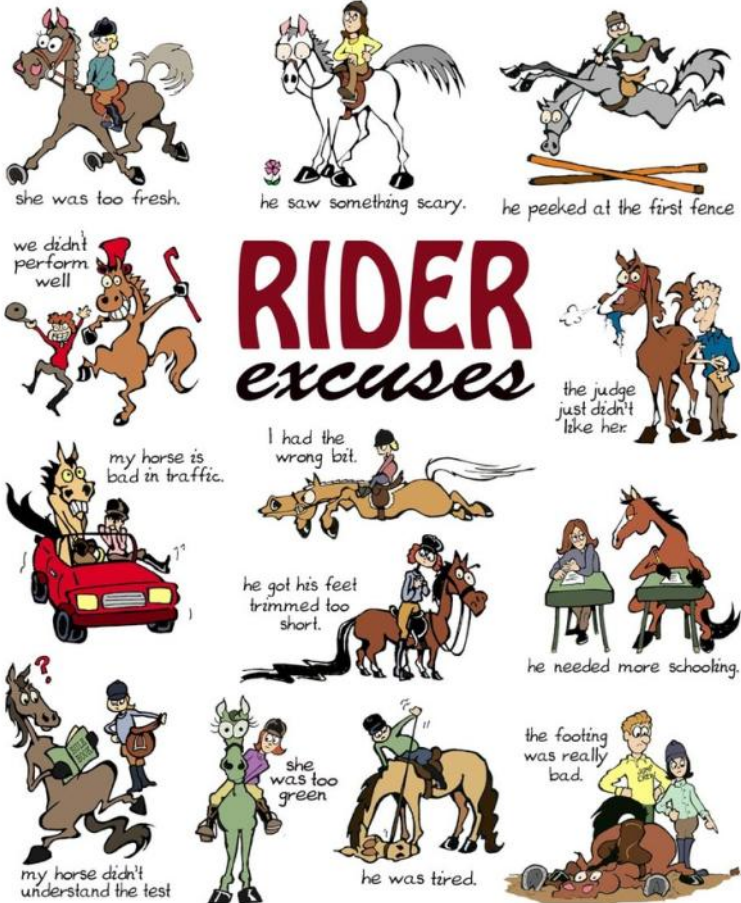
(A begging look)

My Dogs Are Barking

(My feet hurt)



HORSE TRIVIA



HORSE TRIVIA

Q Trigger, Roy Rogers' golden palomino stallion, was preserved after his death in 1964 by Bishoff's Taxidermy of California and was on display for many years at the Roy Rogers-Dale Evans Museum in this city until it closed in 2009?

A Branson, Missouri

Q What is the highest price paid for a thoroughbred race horse at public auction?

A \$16 million: *This pricey 2-year-old colt, named "The Green Monkey", was a descendent of Northern Dancer. He never won a race and has since retired from racing.*

Q Asturian, Bashkir, Falabella, Fleuve and Fouta are all what?

A Horse Breeds.

Police Horses Have Been Around Since the 17th Century

Police horses have been used as a peaceful method of maintaining law and order since the 17th century. They are still used by many police forces but are not as widespread as in the past due to the increased use of police cars and motorbikes. However, a mounted officer is still a common sight in many parts of the world and is useful, particularly in crowded areas: generally mounted police officers can see for a long distance and can easily be seen by others. They also help to maintain order as they command respect and a sense of authority. The horses that are used for this job tend to be castrated as this makes them more peaceful.

Brief History of the Western Riding Saddle

Early day horsemen rode bareback. From traveling to waging war, for hundreds of years, man rode without a saddle.

The first saddle is believed to have been invented in 365 AD by the Sarmatians. Proud horsemen who used their horses in battle and also sacrificed them to the gods, their saddle creations were brought back to Europe by the Huns. Finding the metal stirrups great for mounting, as well as for increasing overall balance, the Europeans discovered that they were able to wield war weapons with more skill and accuracy.

In the beginning, leather tanning was undeveloped, at best. As the years passed, saddlers perfected the process, resulting in soft, supple, durable hides. The saddle's tree, generally made from a carved piece of wood, evolved into wood covered rawhide, fiberglass, carbon fiber, and, most recently, a complete removal of the tree.

The western saddle we know today is an evolved version of the Spanish Vaquero's working saddle. As the working cowboys used their saddles, they underwent a gradual change in order to continue to meet the demands of life in the Old West. Specialized jobs, such as roping cattle, resulted in specialized saddle types.

Then came the invention of rodeos. Initially intended for working cowboys to showcase their skills, the introduction of individualized events led to the evolution of more saddle types, from barrel to roping models.

As riders' demands changed from working to pleasure, and chosen mounts continue to evolve, the saddle has advanced, as well. One only has to look as far as a retail catalog or website to see the dizzying array of models available today.

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FUN FACTS

Several animals are commonly associated with autumn, which includes squirrels, deer, and migrating birds. Squirrels are often seen gathering nuts, deer engage in mating rituals, and birds fly south for the winter. Other animals like foxes, hedgehogs, and geese are also linked to this season, preparing for winter through various activities such as growing thicker fur, hibernating, or migrating.

Visiting an orchard or pumpkin patch is a quintessential autumn activity. These places are not just about picking pumpkins or apples; they offer a whole day of fun with activities like hayrides, corn mazes, and petting zoos.

What animals hibernate in the fall?

Turtles, snakes, wood frogs, and ground-hogs are other animals that engage in hibernation, torpor, or estivation. Turtles burrow into mud at the bottom of ponds, lowering their metabolic rate to a near standstill.

The spirit animal for September is often considered the Raven. Some sources also associate the Fox or Hawk with September birthdays. The Raven, in particular, is linked to wisdom, intellect, and a connection to both the spiritual and physical realms.

Facts for the month of September

September 1, 1939: World War II began with the invasion of Poland by Nazi Germany, leading to declarations of war by Britain and France.

September 1, 1985: Oceanographer Robert Ballard discovered the wreckage of the Titanic on the ocean floor.

September 2, 1666: The Great Fire of London started in a bakery and lasted for four days, destroying 13,000 houses.

September 2, 1945: President Harry Truman declared VJ Day, marking the end of World War II in the Pacific after Japan's surrender.

September 4, 1998: Google, the search engine company was founded.

September 9, 1776: The United States officially came into being as the Continental Congress changed the name from the United Colonies.

September 9, 1943: The invasion of Salerno began during World War II in Europe, also known as Operation Avalanche.

September 11, 2001: The September 11th terrorist attacks, the deadliest terrorist attacks in human history, occurred in the United States.

September 12, 1624: The first publicly tested submarine, built by Cornelis Drebbel, was demonstrated on the River Thames in London.

September 13, 1902: Harry Jackson became the first person in Britain convicted on fingerprint evidence at the Old Bailey, the Central Criminal Court in London.

September 15, 1830: William Huskisson, a British MP, became the first rail fatality at the opening of the Liverpool Manchester Railway.

September 16, 1810: Mexican Independence Day, commemorates Mexico's separation from Spain, not the day Spain officially recognized Mexico's independence.

September 19, 1893: New Zealand became the first country to grant women the right to vote.

September 24, 1789: The United States Supreme Court and the position of Attorney General were established.

September 24, 1948: The Honda Motor Company was founded.

September 27, 2008: Astronaut Zhai Zhigang completed China's first space walk.

September 28, 1066: The Norman conquest of England began with the arrival of William the Conqueror. He landed at Pevensey Bay, marking the start of the invasion.



RESCUE GROUPS



Local Pet Rescues

Clickable Links	Phone #	Location
Agoura Animal Shelter	818-991-0071	Agoura Hills
All for Love Animal Rescue	805-445-3535	Call for Details
Animal Foundation of America	805-905-9951	Thousand Oaks
Animal Rescue Volunteers	805-579-8047	Simi Valley
Bubbles Dog Rescue		Los Angeles
C.A.R.L.	805-644-7387	Call for Details
Cassie's Cat Cafe	805-232-4228	Ventura
Cats at the Studios	818-341-8936	Call for Details
Cat's Cradle Rescue	805-485-8811	Ventura
DaisyLu Ranch		Camarillo
Dobies & Little Paws	805-524-5102	Fillmore
Dog Days Search & Rescue	805-551-9706	Simi Valley
Eastwood Ranch Rescue/Adoption Ctr	818-338-1551	Agoura Hills
Friends of Milo Foundation		Simi Valley/LA
Furry Funding	855-777-7007	Westlake Village
Healthcare for Homeless Anim.	818-483-4228	Ventura County
Herman Bennett Foundation	805-445-7171	Ventura County
Humane Society of Ven. Co	805-646-6505	Ojai
Karma Rescue	310-512-7833	Los Angeles
LIFE Rescue	818-707-2007	Westlake Village
Lucy Pet Foundation	805-499-5829	Thousand Oaks
Mad Love Animal Rescue	213-364-2353	Los Angeles
Military Animal Project	805-551-1168	Ventura County
Paw Works	805-852-1744	Ventura/Oxnard
Petcare Foundation	213-403-0129	Los Angeles
Pink Paws	805-492-1885	Thousand Oaks
Pivot Educational Outreach	805-889-4800	Ventura County
Purrmaid Café & Adoption Center	805-419-6116	Camarillo
Purrlandia Cat Lounge & Cafe	818-230-2724	Thousand Oaks
Save A Rescue	888-440-6467	Nationwide
Shelter Hope Pet Shop	805-379-3538	Thousand Oaks
Serenity Place Rescue	818-999-4022	Call for Details
Simi Valley Missing Pets	805-522-7867	Simi Valley
SPARC	805-525-8609	Santa Paula
Surfcats Café & Adoptions	805-500-7125	Ventura
The Little Angels Project	818-515-5461	Agoura Hills
Valley Cats, Inc	818-883-5252	Westlake Village
Ventura Co. Animal Services	805-388-4341	Camarillo/SV

Shelter Hope is Celebrating 15 Years!

For 15 years, Shelter Hope has been serving the Conejo Valley community - and beyond - by rescuing unwanted pets that often end up on the streets. We were founded out of a desperate need to lower euthanasia rates in California's overcrowded government shelters.

As we grew, we recognized how vital public education was to our mission. Informing people about the realities of rescue became just as important as the rescue work itself.

We've built strong partnerships with local vets, groomers, and doggy daycares, creating a sustainable, nonprofit model that other rescues can follow—one that operates with transparency, community support, and compassion.

Media outlets like KTLA, The Petz Gazette, and The Beverly Hills Courier have helped keep animal welfare in the public eye, and we're grateful for their continued support.

Why are we called "Shelter Hope Pet Shop"?

It's one of the most common questions we get. The answer: After years of protesting puppy mill pet shops in malls, I realized the best way to make change was to open a pet shop myself—one that only featured rescue dogs. We kept "pet shop" in the name so we'd appear in online searches, but we've never sold pet products. Instead, we send each adopter home with a package of goodies to help them get started.

Our Adoption Philosophy

We haven't raised our adoption fees in years, and we adjust each fee based on the dog—not their breed or looks, but their needs. To us, every dog is priceless.

People often ask:

"Why so many Chihuahuas?"

"Why so many senior dogs?"

"Why don't you have what I want?"

After 30 years in rescue, I've learned that what people want in a pet isn't always what they need. Let us help guide you to the dog that truly fits your life and home.

Education & Advocacy

On our Instagram and through community outreach, we raise awareness about pressing issues in the rescue world—like the rise of fake rescues posing as nonprofits while buying puppies from backyard breeders.

To fight back, we created TheTruthAboutFakeRescues.com, a website dedicated to informing the public and protecting animals from exploitation.

Shelter Hope is open:: Wednesday – Saturday: 11am to 5pm Sunday: 11am to 4pm



We recommend making an appointment online or by calling:

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Our Mission: Saving Lives, Creating Connections

At Purrlandia, we're on a mission to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome adoptable cats while fostering responsible guardianship and compassionate cat care. More than just a cafe, we are a bridge between at-risk cats and loving homes.

Through free-roaming socialization, education, and adoption support, we help reduce shelter overcrowding, lower euthanasia risk, and give every rescue cat the second chance they deserve. Whether you're here to adopt, unwind with a cup of coffee, or simply enjoy the company of our feline residents, every visit makes a difference.

A Vision Inspired by Rescue Cats

Purrlandia was born from a simple yet powerful belief: every cat deserves a chance to thrive in a space that honors their nature and connects them with loving humans.

Founder and CEO Kat Killoran discovered this firsthand while volunteering at her local animal shelter. Many cats—especially the shy, fearful ones—were overlooked, unable to engage in their natural instincts or express their true personalities in the stress of a kennel. Without meaningful interaction, adopters often felt disheartened, and some well-intentioned adopters lacked the education needed to set their new cats up for success. This sometimes led to misunderstandings, adoption returns, and increased strain on both the cats and the shelter system.

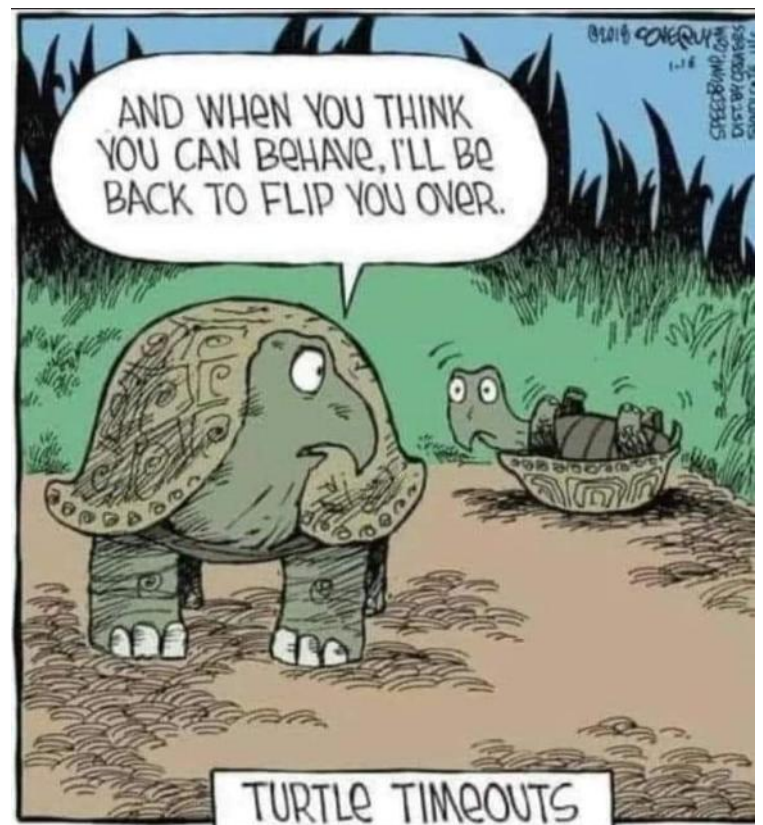
For many shelters, limited space, behavioral challenges, and treatable health conditions can put even highly adoptable cats at risk of euthanasia. The shelter environment itself often exacerbates these issues, as stress can lead to illness or fear-based behaviors that make cats seem "unfriendly" or "unadoptable."

Inspired by her travels to Japan's cat cafes, Kat envisioned a different kind of space—one where rescue, relaxation, and human connection could coexist. A sanctuary where adoptable rescue cats could roam freely, engage in natural behaviors, and form genuine bonds with guests looking to provide them a forever home.

And so, Purrlandia was born—not just as a cafe, but as a life-changing experience for both cats and the people who love them.



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Sigmund Freud's Dogs

Sigmund Freud's dog, a Chow Chow named Jofi (also known as Yofi), played a significant role in his life and



work. She was present during his therapy sessions and is considered an early example of animal-assisted therapy. Jofi's presence was believed to have a calming effect on his patients and Freud even used her to gauge their emotional state.

Freud observed that Jofi could sense a patient's emotional state and would position herself accordingly, sitting closer to those who seemed depressed and further from those who appeared anxious. Freud reportedly relied on Jofi's reactions to patients as a way to assess their mental state, viewing her as a reliable judge of character. Jofi was also known to be a surprisingly accurate timekeeper, yawning and leaving the room at the end of the 50-minute session.

Freud had other Chow Chows, including Lun-Yu and Lün, and his daughter Anna Freud also owned a Chow named Jofi II.

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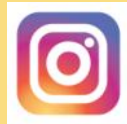
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