

**Schools' Animal Ethics Committee
2020 Student Form**

Application for Ethical Approval for an Investigation/Project Involving Live Animals

Project Title: Purrfect Paws; Do cats have unique pawprints?

Student Name: Felis Jackson

School: Burmese Primary School

Year Level: 7

Date of application: 25/08/2020

Intended start date of project: 15/09/2020 **Intended finish date of project** 25/09/2020

Home	School
Name of Parent/Caregiver Supervisor Ms Jackson	Name of Teacher Supervisor: Mrs Jones
Address: 123 North Road Chordata Cambridge, 3283	Address: Burmese Primary School 567 Polydactyl Road RD 1 Woodchurch, 3284
Phone: 07 1234 567	Phone: 07 1234 567
Email: jacksoncrew@gmail.com	Email: Teacher@burmeseps.school.nz

You must apply before beginning your work. Please tick at which of the 2010 Animal Ethics Committee meetings you would like your application to be considered at and ensure your application is submitted at least 1 week before that:

10 March 12 May 9 June 7 July 11 August 8 September 13 October 10 November

If there are good reasons the Committee may consider projects at other times, but you will have explained why (not just failing to meet the above meeting times).

1. Does your project involve live animals?: Yes (go to Q 2) No (approval not required) A **live animal** is a: mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, fish (bony or cartilaginous), octopus, squid, crab, lobster, or crayfish (including freshwater crayfish); mammalian foetus, avian or reptilian pre-hatched young that is in the last half of gestation or development; or any marsupial pouch young.

2. List the type and total number of animals that you will use:

- I will be using four cats. Two of mine and my neighbours two.

Note: If your project involves catching, killing, or obtaining the eggs, dead bodies or parts, of any native mammals, birds (except game birds), reptiles or amphibians, or bush and ground wetas, ground or carab beetles, Nelson cave spiders, snails, black and red coral, or spotted black groper, you need to also get a permit from the Department of Conservation (www.doc.govt.nz/). A permit may also be required to remove native species from National Parks or Reserves.

3. Aim – briefly explain what are you trying to find out or what are you trying to develop?

- I want to identify if cats have unique and different paw prints, like humans have different fingerprints.

4. Risks to animals: I have identified the following risks to the health or well-being of the animal(s) as a result of the procedures: You are required to talk with some-one who has experience or is qualified in this area to make sure that you identify all actual and potential risks to the animal and/or to yourself.

- I think that the cats might not sit still and could try to wriggle when I press their paw onto the ink pad and then press their paw onto an index card creating a paw print. I will be very patient, gentle, and not force the cat. I will get my friend to offer the cat their favourite food to distract them while I do the paw print.
- They may have a reaction to the ink. My veterinarian has said the ink is non-toxic to cats, but to be safe, I need to wash their paws after I have made the paw print. I will only use one paw on each cat. This will be the right front paw.
- I will also make sure that I do the experiment in an area where the carpet will not get stained if the cat runs off before I can wash their paws.
Here is a photo of the ink pad:



5. Who is the experienced or qualified person you have discussed these risks with and how will you minimise them ? (e.g., your teacher, a farmer, animal breeder, or a vet)?

Name: Mr Lumsden

Experience or qualifications: He is our veterinarian

6. What advice or answers were you given?

- He told me to wash the ink off the cat's paws.

7. Should any of these risks occur and cause irritation or harm to the animal(s), then what will you do?

- I will stop and take the cat to Mr Lumsden.

You **must** answer all the following questions or attach a copy of your project plan ensuring it includes all the information asked for in Questions 5-9.

8. Outline what are you going to do and how will you do it?

- I am going to use the non-toxic ink pad kit that my teacher has in our classroom.
- I will ask my mother to supervise while I take the paw prints at home and at my friend's house (neighbour). My friend will be helping with the food to keep the cat's calm.
- Once I have the four paw prints, I will examine them to determine if the cats have different paw prints that are unique to them, like human fingerprints are to humans.

9. For how long will the animals be used?

- For a few hours in total.

10. What will you measure, observe or record to report your findings?

- I will analyse the patterns in the paw prints and see if there are differences in each of the four paw prints.
- I will take photos of the cats, their paws, and their paw prints.
- I will take note of their age and breed.

11. If your investigation does not go as you planned, what will you do?

- I will discuss my issues with my teacher and produce a plan to ensure my project is successful. I might need to use a magnifying glass to look at the patterns. I may also need to re-do the paw prints if they are not very clear or smeared.

6. Where will you obtain the animals from?

✓ pet from home animal from a farm ✓ elsewhere (please explain where) neighbour's home

7. Where will you keep the animals (please tick one):

at school ✓ at home ✓ elsewhere (please explain where) neighbour's home

8. If your project involves caging or housing an animal(s) briefly describe

- how will they be caged or housed?
 - They are in their normal houses
- how and when will you provide food and water
 - They will have a water bowl all the time. They will be fed at their normal feeding times.
- how you will keep the housing clean

n/a
- how you will care for them in the weekends
 - They are my companion animals, so will be cared for as they would normally be during the week.
- how you will care for any animals that become unwell:
 - I will take them to my veterinarian.

9. At the end of your project what will happen to the animals (please tick one):

✓ kept in, or returned to, their original environment

returned to a similar environment (please explain where)

.....

kept elsewhere (please explain where)

.....

if the animals need to be killed at the end of the project, explain why this is necessary, and how and who will do this humanely?

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Either email this form to animalethicscommittee@nzase.org.nz or fill it in using a black or blue pen and post it to NZASE Animal Ethics Committee, PO Box 10122, WELLINGTON 6143.

After your project has been approved and completed, you will also have to fill out a simple Statistics Form about what animals were used, how many, and what happened to them after the project. This information is

required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry who monitor Animal Ethics Committees.

After your project has been approved, if you need to change the design including the source, type, and numbers of animals or what you do to them, and any materials, housing or foods used, you must seek approval from the Animal Ethics Committee to modify your project.

Hints

- Diagrams or photographs of any caging or devices used or planned for development will be a help to the Committee to understand and approve your project.
- If you plan to use large numbers of animals, you should consider whether a smaller number would be enough.
- For information on how to look after the animals in your project see the booklet “Caring for Animals” (available at your school or at http://www.tki.org.nz/r/science/caring_for_animals/).

For NZASE Schools’ AEC use only File Number

Approval Granted / Provisional / Pending / Declined

Signature **Designation** **Date of Approval:** /

/20 **Project monitored** Y/N **Grade**..... **Additional changes** Withdrawn / Modified / Revoked / /20

Animal Statistics Return Form Completed..... / /20