Drs. Overview: Treats for Your Cat

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Treats can prove invaluable in rewarding positive behavior and in reinforcing behavior learned during training. They're also a fun, inexpensive way to show your cat you love her. When choosing a treat, be sure to consider:

- **Your intended use** - if you plan to use treats during training, smaller treats are a good choice. They're quickly consumed and provide minimal distraction from training tasks.
- **Your "treat frequency"** - if you plan to treat your cat often, you might want to consider lower-fat or lower-calorie treats, which will help her stay slim.
- **Your cat's age and relevant medical conditions** - your older cat may have developed a dental condition that makes eating a crunchy treat difficult. If this is the case, you might have to limit your cat's treats to semi-moist or chewy treats. Natural treats might still contain a meat or carbohydrate source the cat is allergic to.
- **Your cat's preferences** - treats are available in several different forms, flavors, and styles sure to fit your cat's unique tastes.

Although better for your cat than table scraps and meant to be given at any time, treats should constitute no more than 5% of your cat's diet. This is especially important for overweight cats. Treats can also help you avoid the problems associated with feeding table scraps - begging, weight gain, and picky eating.

Following, you'll find brief descriptions of the varieties of treats Drs. Foster and Smith offers your cat.

Catnip treats

Help your inactive or bored kitty find energy and entertainment. Catnip treats are a terrific solution to boredom while you're away from home. Filling your cat's toy with catnip flakes, such as Drs. Foster and Smith Feline Fantasia®, will leave her with something she can swat, bat, pounce, and roll on while you're gone. Catnip is low in fat and low in calories so it also makes a terrific treat for your overweight cat, too. Available in flake, pellet, treat, or grass form, there are a variety of options when it comes to providing a healthy and entertaining treat for your cat.

Dental treats

Dental treats are treats specifically formulated to help remove plaque and tartar and keep your cat's gums healthy. The removal of plaque and tartar helps prevent painful and costly dental problems from occurring in the future. Because you might not always care for your cat's teeth as often as you should, crunchy dental treats are a good choice. With these treats, you can ensure your cat's teeth are cared for between dental cleanings and tooth brushings. When your cat crunches down on these tasty treats, she'll improve her overall dental health by helping to prevent tartar formation, plaque buildup, dental disease, and bad breath.

Meaty treats

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Offer your cat real meat or real meat products. Meaty treats are a fantastic source of much needed protein combined with delicious meat flavors. For example, Drs. Foster and Smith Liver Bites is packed with protein and iron for healthy muscle development. Whole liver has absolutely no additives or preservatives for the lip-smacking taste your cat craves. Your cat will do almost anything for a nibble on these mouth-watering meaty morsels.

Natural treats

Natural treats are protein-rich and full of natural flavors cats love. Many also contain added vitamins, minerals, and fatty acids necessary to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Low fat, low calorie cat grasses, lactose-free milk, and 100% natural, dried bonita tuna flakes are just a few of the many delicious natural treat choices Drs. Foster & Smith have to offer your cat.

The perfect treat

Whether you're looking for a training aid, reward, or a fun addition to your cat's diet, you can rely on Drs. Foster & Smith to provide your cat with the tasty treats she deserves. From natural cat grass to Liver Bites, we have treats to please your most cherished feline friend.

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