



# CAT'S COLORS

## Story Hour Kit

A colorful fun-filled feline  
treasure hunt for ages 3-7

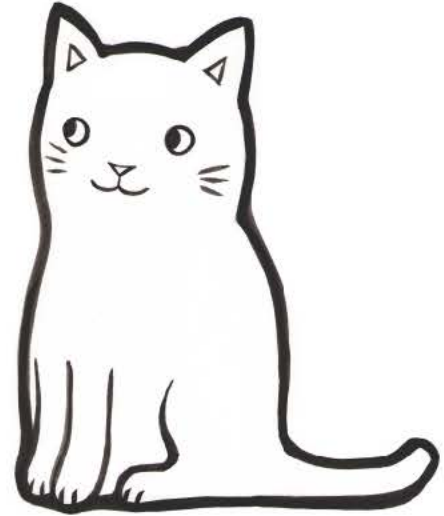
# Cat's Colors Story Hour Kit

## ABOUT THE KIT

Use this kit in an early childhood or elementary classroom, library, or bookstore or at a child's party or play date. Best for ages 3-7.

In the picture book, CAT'S COLORS by Airlie Anderson (Child's Play-International), Cat collects colors as she explores her world on a gray day. Each new color she encounters appears as a spot on her white fur.

You can engage your readers by giving them a kit-provided cut-out of Cat and sending them to find colors. Prepared displays with picture books with predominant colors and matching crayons will allow your children to "collect" colors and give their Cat colored spots.



Cat's secret is that she is about to have kittens. In the sweet logic of children's literature, each one of those kittens is born a different color, and each kitten matches a color that mama collected. The secret is revealed to readers after two curious spreads of Cat hiding in a shrub. The reward of seeing the full litter of colorful kittens is a reveal sure to make your children gasp.

You can re-create that experience with kit-provided "shrubs" that contain seven cut-out kittens to color. Follow-up activity suggestions allow children to make a necklace of colored kittens or a paper standee with mama Cat and her kittens.

## OTHER RESOURCES

Like this event kit? There are more free children's literature programming kits and bi-monthly children's book giveaways at [CuriousCityDPW.com](http://CuriousCityDPW.com). Share your event photos, comments, and suggestions for improving upon this kit with Curious City at [kirsten@curiouscity.net](mailto:kirsten@curiouscity.net).

## ABOUT THE BOOK

### CAT'S COLORS

By Airlie Anderson

Published by Child's Play-International

ISBN-13: 9781846437618

Series: Child's Play Library

Age Range: 3 - 7 Years

What better thing to do on a gray day than collect some colors? Cat decides to do just that, but where will she find them? A charming, deceptively simple story about making the most of the world around us and giving something back in return.



"A fun and simple book that is perfect for fidgety toddlers and will work well in a baby storytime." —*School Library Journal*

"Gentle and charming." —*Kirkus Reviews*

# Cat's Colors Story Hour Kit

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR / ILLUSTRATOR

AIRLIE ANDERSON has been published as an author and illustrator by several notable houses such as Child's Play-International, Little Brown & Co, Dover Publications, and Tiger Tales. She is the recipient of several book awards including the 2014 Gold Independent Publishers Book Award, the Best English Language Books for Children (Taiwan), as well as the 2008 Practical Preschool Award. Airlie grew up in Carmel, California. The town's fairytale charm and origins as an artists' colony made a strong impression on her as a child. She graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design with a BFA in illustration and now lives near Princeton, New Jersey. Discover more at [airlieanderson.com](http://airlieanderson.com).

## EXPLORING & PREPARING FOR THE ACTIVITIES



You will, of course, create your own grand program or lesson plan! Following are simply suggested ways to create an event or classroom experience.

\_\_\_ Locate a copy of the picture book CAT'S COLORS by Airlie Anderson (Child's Play-International).

\_\_\_ If you list your events in newsletters and online calendars, here is some text to help with those listings:

Cat goes looking for colors on a rainy day. Each color she encounters adds a bright spot to her white fur. Children who come for a reading of the picture book CAT'S COLORS by Airlie Anderson (Child's Play-International) will discover the magical outcome of Cat's colored spots. After a read-aloud, we will collect cats and colors of our own in a fun-filled feline treasure hunt. All welcome, but best for ages 3-7.

\_\_\_ If this event is for the public, print out the event poster on page 7, add your date, time, and location, and duplicate it to advertise the event. If you prefer to adapt the poster on your mighty computer, you can find a JPEG of the poster design on [CuriousCityDPW.com](http://CuriousCityDPW.com). Simply search for "cat" (in the upper right) and navigate to the Cat's Color Story Hour Kit listing. The font on the poster is ITC Kabel Book.

# Cat's Colors Story Hour Kit

## EXPLORING & PREPARING FOR THE ACTIVITIES (cont.)

**EXPLANATION:** In the picture book, Cat collects colors as she explores her world on a gray day. Children can collect colors along with Cat when they are given a cut-out of Cat.

\_\_\_ Print "Cat" on page 8 on regular paper or cardstock. Print enough so that each child can have a Cat of their own. Cut out the Cats.

**EXPLANATION:** Cat's colors come from things she encounters one-by-one in the natural world. Each new color she finds appears as a spot on her white fur. You can create color encounters for children and their cut-out Cats by making stations with colored crayons and colored items. We recommend those color items be displays of picture books with predominant colors on the cover. As children find each color station, they can use the crayon to color a spot on Cat.

\_\_\_ Separate your crayon collection by color. **Cat's colors are green, red, blue, purple, orange, black, and yellow.** Pick out enough crayons so that several children can be at a color station at a time.

\_\_\_ Decide what you will use to mark your color stations. If you want to display picture books, use the list on pages 9-11 to get you started on picture book displays arranged by predominant cover color! If you want to resort the list, you can find it in Excel on [CuriousCityDPW.com](http://CuriousCityDPW.com). Simply search for "cat" (in the upper right) and navigate to the Cat's Color Story Hour Kit listing

**EXPLANATION:** Cat's secret is that she is about to have kittens. In the sweet logic of children's literature, each one of those kittens is born a different color. Each kitten matches a color that Cat has collected. The secret is revealed to readers after two curious spreads of cat hiding in a shrub. The reward of seeing the full litter of colorful kittens is a reveal sure to make your children gasp.

You can re-create that experience by making small paper shrubs that conceal seven kittens. This can be done with a cut-out shrub attached to the outside of a rolled-up lunch bag with seven cut-out kittens inside.



\_\_\_ Print the "Cat's Shrub" on page 12 on regular paper. Print enough so that each child can have a shrub of their own. Cut out the shrubs.

\_\_\_ Print the "Cat's Kittens" on page 13 on regular paper. Print enough so that each child can have a full set. Cut out the kittens. I know! This is a lot of cutting, but the outcome is pretty adorable!

\_\_\_ Locate paper lunch bags. You will need one lunch bag for each child.

\_\_\_ Place the seven cut-out kittens in the bottom of a fully opened lunch bag. Tape or glue the shrub cut-out to the bag. The bottom of the cut-out should touch the bottom edge of the bag. Fold the bag down and tape it shut. Ideally the shrub cut-out should hide the bag sitting behind it.

**EXPLANATION:** On the final spread, Cat walks up a hill with her seven colored kittens in a prancing line behind her. Your children can color their kittens at each color station or come back to a craft table to color them.

# Cat's Colors Story Hour Kit

## EXPLORING & PREPARING FOR THE ACTIVITIES (cont.)

EXPLANATION: Consider connecting all the cats by taping ribbon or string to the backs of the kittens. Children can attach the kittens to mama Cat or even wear the string of cats around their neck like a necklace! Regardless, all the pieces of this activity can go home in the Shrub Bag for further home play.

\_\_\_ Decide whether you will have children color their kittens and string them together. Decide what they will attach the kittens to and secure those materials.

EXPLANATION: Alternatively, you can have the children make a standee with Cat and her kittens. If you make loops out of a 20-25" length of cardstock or poster board that are about 2.25" wide, children can affix the cats to the loop. With Mama Cat affixed to the inside and the kittens on the outside of the loop, the characters of CAT'S COLORS stand up on their own! This method also works as a pretty amazing CAT'S COLORS hat!

You can see a sample of this on CuriousCityDPW.com. Simply search for "cat" (in the upper right) and navigate to the Cat's Color Story Hour Kit listing.

\_\_\_ If you choose to help children make a standee/hat, cut an 8.5 x 11 inch piece of cardstock into 4 vertical strips. Attach two strips to make a loop. You can also recycle old poster board for one long strip.

## SETTING UP THE DAY OF THE EVENT

\_\_\_ Create your seven color stations with crayons and picture book displays.

\_\_\_ Set up your craft table with tape, crayons, and ribbon, string, or paper circles if you intend to have the children decorate and connect their kittens.

\_\_\_ Place the cut-out Cats near your read-aloud chair.

\_\_\_ Place the Shrub Bags on shelves and in corners for children to go find after they have showed you their colored Cat.

## EVENT ACTIVITIES

\_\_\_ Read aloud the picture book CAT'S COLORS by Airlie Anderson (Child's Play-International).

\_\_\_ Make the connection between the kittens' colors and Cat's collection of colors with dialogue like:

*Can you name the colors of the kittens? [Use the kittens nursing spread.]*

*Why do you think the kittens are different colors?*

*Do you think the mama cat went looking for colors to give to her kittens?*



# Cat's Colors Story Hour Kit

## EVENT ACTIVITIES (cont.)

\_\_\_ Transition to the activity with dialogue like this:

*I have some mama cats right here under my chair. Who would like a mama cat?*

\_\_\_ Hand out the cut-out Cats.

*Shall we help Cat collect colors? What colors should Cat have?*

*If you walk around the room, you will find each of Cat's colors. You will also find a crayon. What do you think you can do with the crayon? Yes, give Cat a colored spot!*

*When you have found all of Cat's colors, come find me and show me your Cat. You and Cat will get a surprise!*

\_\_\_ Point children to Shrub Bags with dialogue like this:

*What happened in the book when Cat collected all of her colors?*

*Did she go into the shrubs? Can you look around the room and see if you can find a shrub for Cat?*

*When you open the shrub, you and Cat will find a surprise!*

\_\_\_ Have children come to the craft table with dialogue like this:

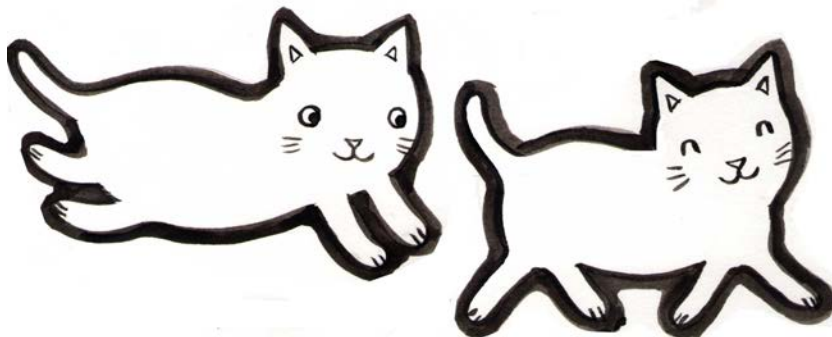
*Should those kittens stay white or should they have Cat's colors?*  
[Use the kittens nursing spread as inspiration.]

\_\_\_ Connect the kittens with dialogue like this:

*We would not want the seven kittens to get lost. Should we connect them so their mama can keep them safe?*

\_\_\_ Show children how to lay the kittens out in a line colored-side down. Lay a ribbon or string across their backs and tape the string to their backs. If you leave string or ribbon on each end, the kittens can be tied and looped over a child's head. Alternatively, attach Cat and her kittens to a paper loop.

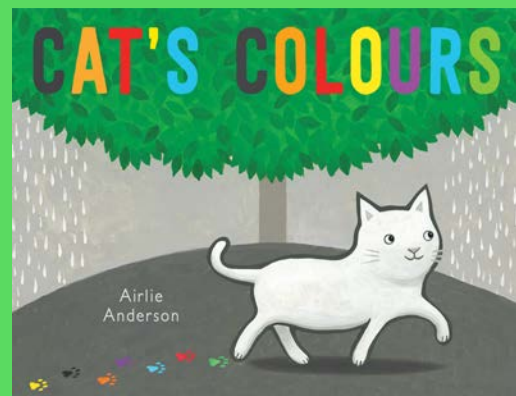
\_\_\_ Congratulate yourself on a very colorful event!



# CAT'S COLORS STORY TIME



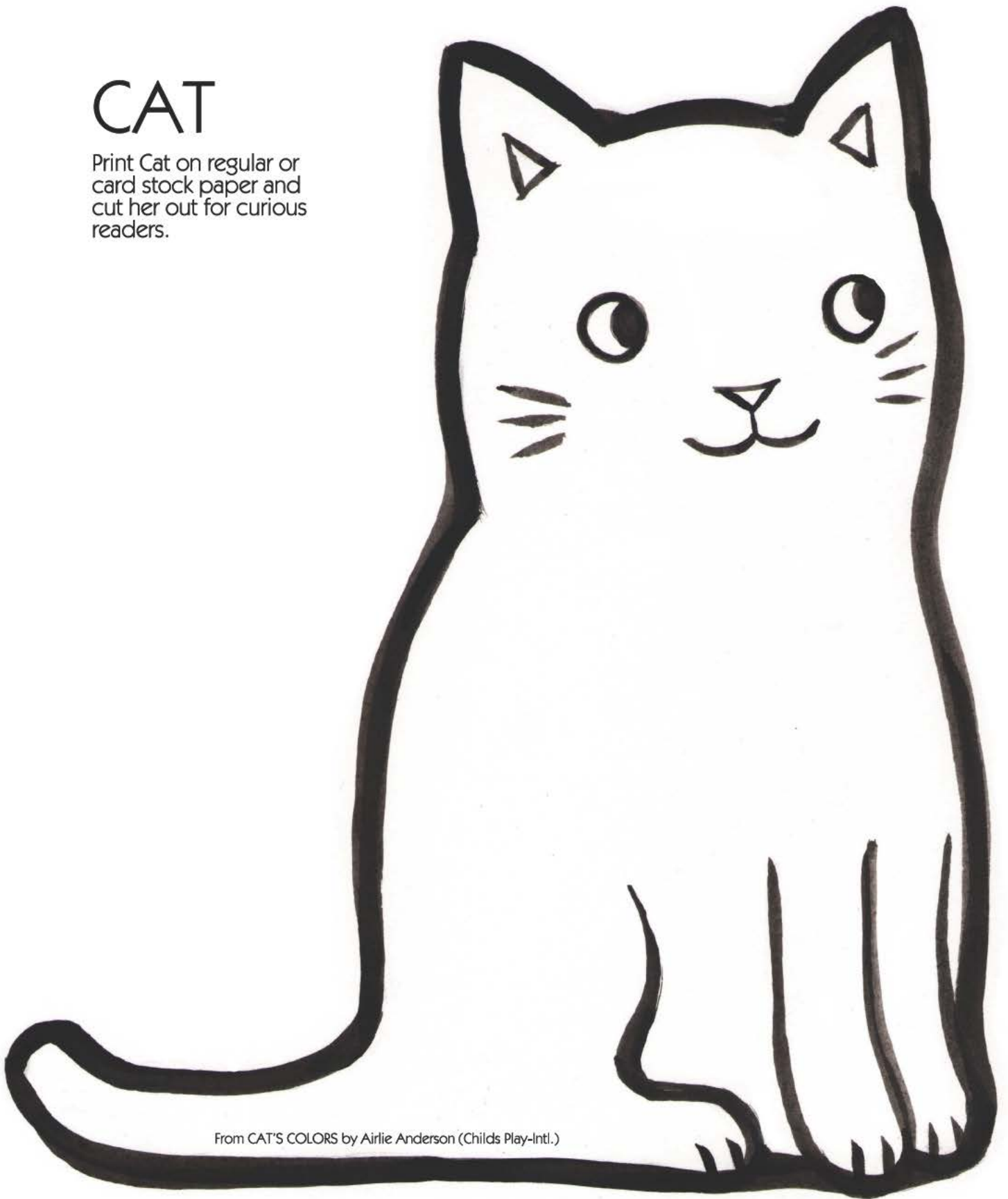
Illustration © Airlie Anderson



A colorful fun-filled feline treasure hunt for ages 3-7

# CAT

Print Cat on regular or card stock paper and cut her out for curious readers.



From CAT'S COLORS by Airlie Anderson (Childs Play-Intl.)



## CAT'S COLORS Picture Books by Color

Chk	Author Last	Author First	Title	ISBN13	Color
	Bang	Molly	When Sophie Gets Angry--Really, Really Angry... (S	9780439598453	YELLOW
	Barner	Bob	Dinosaur Bones	9780811831581	RED
	Bartlett	Alison	Oliver's Fruit Salad	9780340704530	ORANGE
	Brunelle	Lynn	Chicken Scratches: Poultry Poetry and Rooster Rhy	9780810000000	GREEN
	Brunhoff	Jean	Babar and His Children (Babar Books (Random Ho	9780394805771	RED
	Buzzeo	Toni	But I Read It on the Internet! (Mrs. Skorupski Story)	97816092130623	ORANGE
	Cannon	Janell	Stellaluna	97801592802172	BLUE
	Cannon	Janell	Trupp: A Fuzzhead Tale	97801592001308	BLUE
	Carle	Eric	Little Cloud	9780399231919	BLUE
	Carlson	Nancy	Take Time to Relax! (Nancy's Neighborhood)	9780760000000	PURPLE
	Carter	David	Whoo? Whoo?	9781420000000	BLACK
	Cleary	Brian	To Root, to Toot, to Parachute: What Is a Verb? (W	9781575054032	ORANGE
	Clough	Lisa	Simon and Molly Plus Hester	97806180892909	YELLOW
	Cole	Henry	I Took a Walk	9780690000000	GREEN
	Cole	Joanna	Ms. Frizzle's Adventures: Ancient Egypt	9780590446808	ORANGE
	Costello	David	I Can Help	9780370000000	GREEN
	Crews	Donald	Night at the Fair	9780688114831	YELLOW
	D'amico	Carmela	Ella Sets The Stage	9780439831529	RED
	DaCosta	Barbara	Nighttime Ninja	9780392000000	BLACK
	Demi	Demi	Magic Pillow, The	9781416924708	RED
	Deveaux	Alexis	Na-ni	9780060216276	YELLOW
	Dewdney	Anna	Llama Llama Red Pajama	9780670059836	BLUE
	Dewdney	Anna	Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa	9780670000000	PURPLE
	Dutton	Sandra	Dear Miss Perfect: A Beast's Guide to Proper Beha	9780618677177	BLUE
	Ehlert	Lois	Growing Vegetable Soup (Voyager Books)	97801592325800	RED
	Ehlert	Lois	RRRalph	97814492413054	RED
	Elffers	Joost	Dog Food (New York Times Best Illustrated Books	9780439110167	BLUE
	Emberley	Ed	Ten Little Beasties	9781596436275	RED
	Ets	Marie	Gilberto and the Wind	9780140502763	YELLOW
	Falconer	Ian	Olivia Helps with Christmas (Classic Board Books)	9781442494466	RED
	feldman	eve	Billy and Milly, Short and Silly!	9780400000000	GREEN
	Fergus	Maureen	Buddy and Earl Go Exploring	9781550000000	PURPLE
	Fleming	Candace	When Agnes Caws	9780689814716	BLUE
	Fleming	Denise	Alphabet Under Construction	9780810000000	GREEN
	Foley	Greg	Purple Little Bird	9780060000000	PURPLE
	Ford	Bernette	First Snow	9780439892339	BLUE
	Fox	Mem	Yoo-Hoo, Ladybug!	9781442434004	RED
	Fox	Diane	Cat, the Dog, Little Red, the Exploding Eggs, the W	9780545694810	RED
	Frampton	David	My Beastie Book of ABC	9780060288235	ORANGE
	Frankel	Alona	Once Upon a Potty -- Girl	9781770854055	RED
	Frankel	Alona	Once Upon a Potty -- Boy	9781770854048	RED
	Fraser	Mary	I.Q. Goes to School	9780802788139	YELLOW
	Frazier	Craig	Bee & Bird	9781596436602	BLUE
	Freedman	Deborah	Blue Chicken	9780670012930	BLUE
	Freedman	Claire	One Magical Day	9781845065430	ORANGE
	Freeman	Don	Earl the Squirrel	9780140000000	BLACK
	Freeman	Don	Pocket for Corduroy, A	9781100000000	PURPLE
	Freeman	Don	Corduroy	9780140501735	RED



## CAT'S COLORS Picture Books by Color

Freymann	Saxton	Food For Thought	9780439110181	BLUE
Fuge	Charles	Yip! Snap! Yap!	97814092773266	BLUE
Fyleman	Rose	Mice	9781440000000	BLACK
Geraghty	Paul	Dinosaur in Danger	9781849390729	RED
Gonyea	Mark	Wish for Elves, A	9780805088144	RED
Graham	Bob	"Let's Get a Pup!" Said Kate	9780760000000	GREEN
Graham	Bob	Queenie, One of the Family	9780763603595	YELLOW
Gravett	Emily	Rabbit Problem, The	9781440000000	BLACK
Gravett	Emily	Blue Chameleon	9781442419582	BLUE
GRAY	NIGEL	Time to Play!	9780763640132	YELLOW
Gregory	Valiska	Valentine for Norman Noggs, A	9780064436236	RED
Hall	Zoe,	Fall Leaves Fall!	9780439321730	ORANGE
Heller	Nicholas	Elwood and the Witch	9780688169459	BLUE
Hill	Eric	Spot Goes to School (color)	9780142401675	RED
Hoban	Tana	Count and See	9780027448009	BLUE
Hopkinson	Deborah	Under the Quilt of Night	9780690000000	PURPLE
Idle	Molly	Flora and the Penguin	9781452128917	BLUE
Idle	Molly	Flora and the Peacocks	9781450000000	GREEN
Kalman	Maira	Chicken Soup, Boots	9780670000000	BLACK
Kasza	Keiko	Ready for Anything!	9780399252358	ORANGE
Kasza	Keiko	Badger's Fancy Meal	9780140000000	PURPLE
Kaufman	Nancy	Bye, Bye!	9781886910959	ORANGE
Kent	Jack	Caterpillar and the Polliwog, The	9780671662813	ORANGE
Klassen	Jon	This Is Not My Hat (Ala Notable Children's Books.	9780760000000	BLACK
Knapp	Ruthie	Who Stole Mona Lisa?	9781599900582	ORANGE
Kohara	Kazuno	Ghosts in the House!	9780312608866	ORANGE
Krauss	Ruth	Happy Day, The	9780064431910	YELLOW
Kuskin	Karla	Green as a Bean	9780060000000	GREEN
Lee	Suzy	Wave	9780811859240	BLUE
Lehman	Barbara	Red Book (Caldecott Honor Book), The	9780618428588	RED
Ljungkvist	Laura	Follow the Line	9780670000000	BLACK
Ljungkvist	Laura	Follow the Line to School	9780670000000	BLACK
Ljungkvist	Laura	Follow the Line through the House	9780670062256	BLUE
Lobby	Ted	Jessica and the Wolf: A Story for Children Who Ha	9780950000000	PURPLE
Lobel	Anita	One Lighthouse, One Moon	9780060005375	BLUE
MacDonald	Suse	Look Whooo's Counting	9780590000000	PURPLE
Mamada	Mineko	Which Is Round? Which Is Bigger?	9781554539734	YELLOW
Manziona	Lisa	Let's Visit Rome!: Adventures of Bella & Harry (The	9781937616083	RED
Marino	Gianna	Following Papa's Song	9780670000000	GREEN
Marshall	James	George and Martha One Fine Day	9780395271544	YELLOW
Marshall	James	George and Martha: Rise and Shine	9780547144252	YELLOW
Morales	Yuyi	Just a Minute!: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book	9780811837583	ORANGE
Ohi	Debbie	Where Are My Books?	9781440000000	PURPLE
Parr	Todd	Peace Book, The	9780316043496	BLUE
Parr	Todd	EARTH Book, The	9780320000000	GREEN
Parr	Todd	Family Book, The	9780316070409	RED
Parr	Todd	We Belong Together: A Book About Adoption and	9780316016681	RED
Penn	Audrey	Kissing Hand, The	9781933718002	YELLOW
Piven	Hanoch	My Best Friend Is As Sharp As a Pencil: And Other	9780380000000	GREEN

These activities were designed for the picture book CAT'S COLORS by Airlie Anderson (Child's Play-International).



## CAT'S COLORS Picture Books by Color

Plourde	Lynn	At One: In a Place Called Maine	9781934031063	BLUE
Raschka	Chris	Like Likes Like	9780789425645	YELLOW
Raschka	Chris	Yo! Yes? (Scholastic Bookshelf)	9780439921855	YELLOW
Rayner	Catherine	Harris Finds His Feet	9781560000000	GREEN
Reagan	Jean	How to Babysit a Grandpa	9780375867132	YELLOW
Reid	Barbara	Picture a Tree	9780810000000	GREEN
Rex	Adam	Pssst!	9780152058173	BLUE
Rey	H.	Curious George	9780395159934	YELLOW
Robertson	Fiona	Cuckoo!	9780399164972	YELLOW
Robertson	Rachel	When You Just Have to Roar! (Redleaf Lane - Early	9781605543628	RED
Rockwell	Lizzy	Bird Is a Bird, A	9780823430420	BLUE
Rockwell	Anne	Four Seasons Make a Year	9780802788832	YELLOW
Rosen	Michael	Bear's Day Out	9781599903910	ORANGE
Rosenthal	Amy	Exclamation Mark	9780545436793	YELLOW
Rosenthal	Marc	Phooey!	9780060752484	YELLOW
Rosenthal	Eileen	I Must Have Bobo!	9781442403772	YELLOW
Ross	Tony	I Want My Light On! (Little Princess Story)	9780760000000	BLACK
Rostoker-Gru	Karen	Ferret Fun	9780760000000	GREEN
Rudy	Maggie	I Wish I Had a Pet	9781442453326	YELLOW
Sayre	April	Here Come the Humpbacks!	9781580894067	BLUE
Schmid	Paul	Oliver and his Egg	9781420000000	PURPLE
Schneider	Josh	Everybody Sleeps (But Not Fred)	9780540000000	PURPLE
Schuette	Sarah	Blue (Colors Books)	9780736850643	BLUE
Schwarz	Viviane	There Are Cats in This Book	9781406324990	RED
Seeger	Pete	Abiyoyo	9780690000000	BLACK
Seeger	Laura	Green	9781600000000	GREEN
Seeger	Laura	One Boy	9781596432741	RED
Seuss	Dr.	Big Green Book of Beginner Books (Beginner Book	9780380000000	GREEN
Shange	Ntozake	Ellington Was Not a Street	9780690000000	GREEN
Shannon	David	No, David!	9780590930024	ORANGE
Shirer	Priscilla	Breathe: Making Room for Sabbath (Member Book	9781430032342	BLUE
Silvano	Wendi	Turkey Trouble	9780761455295	YELLOW
Silverstein	Shel	Giving Tree, The	9780060000000	GREEN
Singer	Marilyn	Tallulah's Tap Shoes	9780540000000	GREEN
Sis	Peter	Madlenka	9780312659127	BLUE
Small	David	Fenwick's Suit	9780374322984	YELLOW
Smalley	Ruth	Sheila Says We're Weird	9780884483267	ORANGE
Smith	Lane	Grandpa Green	9781600000000	GREEN
Snicket	Lemony	Dark, The	9780320000000	BLACK
Stark	Ulf	When Dad Showed Me the Universe	9781927271810	BLUE
Stead	Philip	Sick Day for Amos McGee, A	9781596434028	YELLOW
Stead	Philip	Lenny & Lucy	9781596439320	YELLOW
Stephens	Helen	Poochie-poo	9780552548137	BLUE
Trapani	Iza	Itsy Bitsy Spider (Board Book), The	9781580890144	BLUE
Wiesner	David	Flotsam	9780618194575	RED
Willems	Mo	That Is Not a Good Idea!	9780060000000	BLACK
Willems	Mo	My New Friend Is So Fun! (An Elephant and Piggie	9781420000000	PURPLE
Wolff	Ashley	Baby Bear Sees Blue (Classic Board Books)	9781481415033	BLUE

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# CAT'S SHRUB

Print Cat's Shrub on regular paper and cut it out. Attach one shrub to the bottom edge of a paper lunch bag.





## CAT'S KITTENS

Print Cat's Kittens on regular paper and cut them out for curious readers.