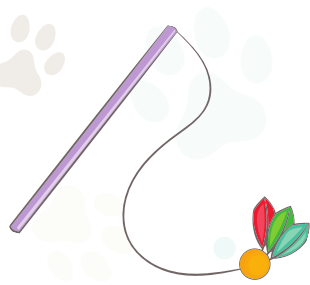




The Fulfilled Feline

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PREY-PLAY STEPS



TOOLS

- Fishing wand-style toy
- High-value treats (i.e., Churu stick, freeze-dried treats, or wet food)

GOALS

Have cat go through a complete prey sequence that consists of...

1. Staring at the toy
2. Stalking and chasing
3. Grabbing/catching or pouncing
4. "The Kill Bite"



1.

Use wand toy to mimic movements of real prey. Wave, twitch or scurry the toy several feet away from the cat. Do not wiggle the toy in front of the cat's face. Real prey moves away from predators, not toward them. Additionally, you can hide the toy behind furniture and have it peek out every so often.

2.

Be aware of your cat's gaze and watch them stare, stalk, and start chasing the toy.

3.

Allow your cat to chase, play with, and catch the toy. Repeat steps 1-3 a few times. Don't make the game too challenging or too easy for the cat.

4.

After several minutes of play (10-15 minutes) or when the cat starts to lose interest, make the toy slowly "die" by putting less energy and motion into the toy allowing the cat one last catch.

5.

Let your cat have a final "kill" of the toy (i.e., not letting go of the toy, biting into with and kicking with its back legs, etc.).

6.

When your cat has satisfyingly "killed" the toy, reward them with a high-value treat.

7.

If your cat still seems energized, repeat the steps until the cat has returned to its baseline energy level. If play is abruptly stopped when your cat is still actively engaged, they will be left frustrated, defeating the play session's purpose.

8.

Remove your cat's access to the toy altogether and only bring it out for these prey sequence sessions. This keeps this activity special and novel.