

# REDIRECTING your KITTY'S UNWANTED BEHAVIORS

## NIPPING or BITING

You love your kitty but do they nip or bite more than just a love tap? We can help! While we cannot eradicate a natural behavior like biting, we can redirect it! By understanding your kitty, you can help direct their behaviors. Each kitty will have an individual journey with behavior modification, which may take days, weeks, or months. This guide will give you tips and tricks to work on these behaviors. Your patience will be rewarded with a strong loving and lasting bond you create with your kitty!

### 1 **Be Prepared and Redirect**

"Redirection" is a technique proven to modify behavior in kitties. This is a big word for a simple act of having something else at the ready for your kitty to bite instead of you! SO - always have a soft toy in your pocket to wave in front of kitty to catch their nips! ALWAYS initiate play with a toy - NEVER use your hands or fingers as a target for your kitty to attack.

### 2 **Understand your kitty - know their limits**

If you know your kitty's threshold then you are able to make sure you don't cross that line where they are overstimulated and tempted to bite. Things like aggressive play or petting can trigger overstimulation, so know their limits! Be ready to pull back to calm your kitty.

### 3 **Read your kitty's behaviors**

Know how to read a kitty's body language and vocal cues to know when they are happy ... or not. See our pamphlet on "Socialization" for more details on how to translate what your kitty is telling you!

### 4 **Give positive reinforcement and reward**

When you successfully redirect a behavior, or get to a point where you can stop a behavior from escalating - make sure you give your kitty lots of love and praise. Treats can also be used as a "reward" for behaving well!

### 5 **Routine**

Kitties LOVE consistency. Make sure you start a daily routine that involves mindful playtime to redirect unwanted behaviors. This daily conditioning will train your kitty to be a well-behaved and loving life-long companion!