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## Prompts for working together: cats and wildlife project

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### **Scenario 1:**

*Two students will represent Scientists for Wildlife and two students will represent Citizens for Cat Colonies.*

Two groups the “Scientists for Wildlife” and the “Citizens for Cat Colonies” both agree that the feral cat populations in their city are too high. Some colonies are spreading disease to others and many are looking thin and sick. These colonies are also known to have eradicated native rodents and some birds in the area.

To control the feral cat colonies:

- Scientists for Wildlife would like to trap and humanely euthanize the cats.
- Citizens for Cat Colonies would like to trap individual cats, neuter or spay them, give them vaccinations, and then release them back into the wild.

Neither group is willing to take the other group’s approach to solving the problem. In the name of cats and wildlife, your teams will collaborate and find a solution where both groups agree.

### **Scenario 2:**

*Two students will play the roles of Alex and Jordan and two students will play the roles of Sam and Corey.*

Alex and Jordan live in a suburban area. They enjoy gardening, spending time outdoors, and bird watching. Things were going well for Alex and Jordan until new neighbors Sam and Corey moved in and brought multiple outdoor cats. The cats dig up their garden, pee in the soil, and even attack the birds, small mammals, and reptiles on their property.

Sam and Corey understand Alex and Jordan’s frustrations, but they don’t know what to do. They are permitted to run a small feline rescue out of their home and they have dedicated their lives to helping unwanted and stray cats find a second chance. Keeping the cats indoors only all the time is not an option.

The two neighbors must work together to come up with a solution that will work for both parties. The cats must respect Alex and Jordan’s property, but still be allowed to go outside in some capacity.

### **Scenario 3:**

*Two students will represent Save the Seals and two students will represent Cats Belong Outdoors.*

The group “Save the Seals” is concerned about the disease toxoplasmosis entering the waterways and infecting endangered Hawaiian Monk seals. The disease is commonly spread by infected feline waste. The group “Cats Belong Outdoors” understands Save the Seals concerns, but still believes that it is a cat’s right to use the outdoors. Both teams must research to learn more about this protozoan disease, how it enters the water via cat feces, and then come up with a solution. The solution should allow cats to be outdoors while preventing the endangered Hawaiian Monk seal from getting toxoplasmosis.

**Scenario 4:**

*Two students will play the roles of Roommates One and Two and two students will play the roles of Roommates Three and Four.*

Roommates One and Two have indoor only cats. They have provided their cats with multiple perches throughout their house and play with their cats daily. When their cats want to go outside, they use a harness and a leash. Their friends, roommates Three and Four think it's cruel for One and Two to keep their cats indoors and only let them out on a leash. "Cats aren't dogs" they say, "And they shouldn't be treated as dogs." When One and Two bring up how many millions of wildlife outdoor cats kill per year, Three and Four simply shrug it off and say, "It's just cats being cats".

The two groups of roommates have been nominated to give a presentation together on cats and the outdoors for their University housing program. The two groups must find a way to collaborate on what issues or topics they want to inform their fellow residents about outdoor cats. Given the differences in opinion, the two groups will likely have to compromise on the information they choose to present.

**Scenario 5:**

*Two students will represent Mothers Against Feral Cats and two students will represent Catz 4 Lyfe.*

Mothers Against Feral Cats (MAFC) is a group focused on reducing feral cat colonies in their rural community. They are concerned feral cats are bringing diseases to their town and risking the health of the community. They want to remove and humanely euthanize feral cats in their county.

The group Catz 4 Lyfe believe that cats should not be removed and that if vaccinated, disease will be removed from the town. MAFC is concerned about where the money for vaccinations will come from and that vaccinations only last a few years before the threat of disease returns.

The two groups must work together to find a solution to this problem to keep their town healthy and disease free.

**Scenario 6:**

*Two students will play the roles of Jesse and Cameron and two students will play the roles of Taylor and Jordan.*

Jesse and Cameron have a fenced yard with a dog who comes inside and out. The dog has been in a couple of fights now with cats who have come into the fenced backyard. One of the fights was bad and both the dog and cat had to go to the veterinarian and get medication. Taylor and Jordan are the owners of the cat. They are upset their cat is severely injured but still believe it is their cat's right to roam the neighborhood freely. Both parties are frustrated and have brought the issue to their local neighborhood association for consideration. The neighborhood association is unable to decide and has asked both parties to create boundaries so that both the cat and dog will stay safe in the future. The two groups must work together to decide what this looks like and then present their decision to the neighborhood association for approval.