



## **“Cat Toys and Your Cat”**

**By Kit Belcher, Executive Director  
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Published in *The Bemidji Pioneer***

**If you are a cat owner, cat toys are a “must” for your babies. All kittens and cats love to play and most often, they will play with just about anything and/or everything they find. There are many types of cat and kitten toys in our stores today, so you will have no trouble finding just the right one for your “cat-kid”.**

**Generally speaking, cats and kittens like to chase and pounce on things. If you start out with something simple like a ball or catnip-filled mouse, you can gradually move onto more sophisticated toys. Whatever toys you choose, be sure that they are safe for your pet. Be sure that they do not have anything on them that can be chewed off (or fall off), and become a choking hazard.**

**Toys you may want to avoid include:**

- toys with small parts such as a bell or glued on plastic eyes.**
- toys with feathers that may be broken off and/or swallowed.**
- small foam balls that can be chewed apart and swallowed.**
- any toy that may contain marbles, beads or anything small enough to go down your cat’s throat.**
- plastic bags --these look like fun, but the handles can easily slip over the cat’s head, wrap around it’s throat and suffocate your cat.**

**If a toy becomes worn or cracked, replace it with a new toy. Always be sure to keep a good supply of toys “on hand” (especially if you have more than one cat), so that your cat can have a variety of play toys to choose from. They will be caught up in their own little “play-world”.**

**At Beltrami Humane Society, we have a lot of very playful cats and kittens waiting for a new home of their own. Two of our featured pets this week are “Buffy” and “CiCi”. “Buffy” and “CiCi” came to the shelter at the age of 6 weeks. They were picked up after a very cold-frosty night. They had been living under a log pile in the rural Blackduck area. They appeared very hungry, and no mother was found. There were eight kittens total in the litter. To date, all of the other kittens have found new homes. “Buffy and CiCi” however, are still waiting for “someone to love them” and take them to a home of their very own.**

**They are approximately 6-7 months old at this time, are spayed, have had their basic kennel vaccinations, and are ready for adoption. They are very sweet, loving and playful. They are both black with a distinctive brown swirl pattern in their coats of fur. They also have very “white whiskers”.**

**Visit them at 1612 Carr Lake Rd SE, Bemidji, MN. Hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 12-5:30 p.m. You can also see them on our website photo gallery at [www.beltramihumane.com](http://www.beltramihumane.com) or on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com). If you have additional questions, feel free to call us at (218) 751-7910. Our “Pets of the Month” are posted at your local Pamida Store, or you can visit Walmart and see photos at the ends of the pet aisles (we are participants of the Very Best Pet Network”). Listen to the early show on KKBj Mix 103 to hear about our “Pets of the Week” with Chuck Sebastian.**

**A special “thank you” to all the volunteers that have been helping with mower repairs, lawn mowing and landscaping. What a difference you all make! Thank you very much!**

**We are in need of “shade trees” for our dog yards and building. With the hot and humid weather, we need to keep our animals cool and safe from heat exhaustion while out in the yards. If you are “out and about” on the trails with the center dogs, please remember to take advantage of the benches along the trails and take breaks.**

**Watch for upcoming events to be announced.**

**Shelter Wishes: Cat Room Toys, Kitten Chow, Canned Cat Food,  
Paper Towels, Dog Leashes, Power Washer for the Dog Kennels**