

Lesson 68: Feline Habits & Anatomy — The Cat**PLL PART TWO****Zoological Study • Domestic Feline Habits**

"Is the cat a tame or a wild animal? Where does it live? (In houses.) Where does it like to sleep? What is its covering? How does the cat keep itself clean? How does it step? What kind of claws has it? Tell three things the cat can do. How is it useful?"

Scientific Focus: Tame vs. wild • Retractable claws • Padded paws • Domestic utility.

1 HABITAT, FUR & GROOMING HABITS

Observe the feline's habits and record complete, scientific sentence answers:

1. Tame vs. Wild: The cat is a _____ animal that lives in _____.

2. Sleep & Covering: Where does it like to sleep, and what is its body covering?

It likes to sleep on _____

3. Grooming: How does the cat keep itself neat and clean?

The cat washes its fur by _____

2 VELVET PAWS, SHARP CLAWS & USEFULNESS

Study how the cat moves silently and how it helps around the homestead:

1. Silent Step: How does the cat step? It walks silently on soft, _____ paws.

2. Special Claws: What kind of claws has the cat? Sharp, curved claws that can _____

3. Three Actions: Name three graceful or agile things a cat can do: _____

4. Practical Utility: In what important way is the cat useful to people?

The cat is useful because _____

3 EXPOSITORY PARAGRAPH • "THE CAT"

Write a 3-to-4 sentence expository paragraph describing the cat's traits and usefulness:

Lesson 68 Teacher Key: Feline Anatomy & Domestic Utility

ANSWER KEY & RUBRIC

Pedagogical Framework • Comparative Zoology

Biological Understanding: Examining feline adaptations: distinguishing domestic (tame) animals from wild, explaining velvet foot-pads (stealth locomotion), retractable claws (retractility), self-grooming with barbed tongue, and barn/pantry pest control.

1 SECTION 1: CLASSIFICATION & GROOMING SOLUTIONS

- 1. **Tame vs. Wild:** The cat is a **tame** (domestic) animal that lives in **houses and barns**.
- 2. **Sleep & Covering:** It likes to sleep on warm braided rugs, soft chairs, or by the hearth; its body is covered with soft, warm **fur**.
- 3. **Grooming:** The cat washes its fur by licking its paws and fur with its rough, barbed tongue.

2 SECTION 2: PAWS, CLAWS & UTILITY SOLUTIONS

- 1. **Silent Step:** It walks softly and silently on soft, **padded (velvet)** paws.
- 2. **Retractable Claws:** Sharp, curved claws that can **be pulled in (retracted) or pushed out** when climbing or catching prey.
- 3. **Three Actions:** Climb trees, leap across fences, purr when petted, see well in the dark.
- 4. **Practical Utility:** It catches harmful mice and rats that destroy grain and food in kitchens and barns.

3 SECTION 3: MODEL EXPOSITORY PARAGRAPH

Exemplary Model Paragraph:
"The cat is a gentle, tame animal that lives in human homes and is covered in soft fur. She steps silently on velvet-padded paws and has sharp curved claws that pull inside when she walks. A cat can climb tall trees and leap with great agility. She is very useful because she protects our pantry and barn by catching pesky mice."

4 DIAGNOSTIC SCORING RUBRIC (4 PERFORMANCE LEVELS)

Evaluation Domain	4 • Exemplary	3 • Proficient	2 • Developing / Emerging
Anatomical Observations	Understands padded paws, retractable claws, and self-grooming mechanisms thoroughly.	Identifies basic physical traits (fur, sharp claws, padded feet) correctly.	Confuses feline traits with other domestic animals.
Classification & Utility	Distinguishes <i>tame</i> from <i>wild</i> ; articulates rodent control as practical domestic service.	Identifies cat as tame and mentions catching mice.	Unable to explain practical usefulness.
Expository Paragraph Flow	Synthesizes facts into a tightly structured, cohesive paragraph with smooth transitions.	Writes an organized paragraph with clear, complete sentences.	Writes disjointed bullet-like statements without paragraph unity.
Handwriting & Mechanics	Impeccable letterforms strictly on ruled baselines; correct capitalization and ending punctuation.	Legible handwriting with minor mechanical slips.	Handwriting uneven, cramped, or baseline omitted.