

Friendly Felines

10 Cats were considered to be sacred, or holy, in ancient
19 Egyptian society and helped humans just as much as
22 humans helped them.

31 The ancient Egyptians were skilled farmers and grew many
41 crops, such as wheat and grains, in the nutrient-rich soil
51 close to the River Nile. However, the wheat would attract
56 mice, rats and snakes, which
60 were dangerous to humans.

65 To solve this problem, the
68 ancient Egyptians would
74 leave food, such as fish heads,
80 outside to tempt cats to visit.
86 When the cats came, they ate
92 the food and scared away any
97 vermin around the food stores.
103 After a short amount of time,
108 cats were welcomed into the
113 house and lived happily with
116 their human friends.



Quick Questions



1. Find and copy two adjectives which show that Egyptians thought that cats were special.



2. What is the main point of the third paragraph?



3. What does 'nutrient-rich' tell you about the soil close to the River Nile?



4. Where in this text can I find information about the types of crop grown by ancient Egyptians?
