



Nyan, Nyan, Nyan Day

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① What sound does a cat make? In English, a cat says meow. In Japanese, a cat says nyan. And the Japanese word for the number two is ni. So the date February 22, or 2-2-2, sounds like nyan, nyan, nyan. That is why it is Cat Day in Japan.



② Cat Day started in 1987. A group of cat lovers asked people to choose the best date. They got 8,953 answers. The most popular answer was February 22. The first Cat Day event was held in Tokyo. It is not a national holiday, but many shops and cafes sell cat goods and sweets on this day.

③ Japanese people have loved cats for a long time. More than 1,000 years ago, an emperor wrote about his black cat in his diary. Later, people made the maneki-neko, a lucky cat with one paw up. People believe it brings customers and money. One famous story says a temple cat once waved a lord inside, just before a big storm. You can still see it in many shops today.

④ Other countries have cat days, too, but the dates are different. International Cat Day is August 8. In Italy, it is February 17, and in Russia, it is March 1. In the United States, many people celebrate on October 29. In the UK, there is even a special day for black cats. So if you love cats, you can celebrate many times a year!

Words 単語**meow** ニャー（と鳴く）**date** 日付**lover** ～好きの人、愛好家**popular** 人気のある**national holiday** 国民の祝日**emperor** 天皇、皇帝**paw**（動物の）足、手**celebrate** 祝う



Reading Check

Choose the best answer. 正しいものを選ぼう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Cats in Japan cannot say meow.
- (B) Japan's Cat Day comes from a sound joke, and other countries have cat days too.
- (C) February 22 is a national holiday in Japan.
- (D) The maneki-neko was made in Italy.

2. How many answers did the cat lovers get?

- (A) 1,987
- (B) 2,222
- (C) 8,953
- (D) 10,029

3. When is International Cat Day?

- (A) August 8
- (B) February 17
- (C) March 1
- (D) October 29

4. In paragraph 3, what is a paw?

- (A) a cat's tail
- (B) a cat's ear
- (C) a cat's coin
- (D) a cat's foot or hand

5. Why does Rina say her cat can have two parties a year?

- (A) Because her cat has two birthdays.
- (B) Because Japan and America have different cat days.
- (C) Because Cat Day is twice a year in Japan.
- (D) Because she has two cats.

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

- | | |
|--|-------|
| Cat Day in Japan is February 22. | T / F |
| Cat Day in Japan is a national holiday. | T / F |
| In Japanese, the number two is ni. | T / F |
| Every country celebrates cats on the same day. | T / F |



Word Work

Words & phrases. 単語のれんしゅう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① Match the pictures and the words. 絵と単語を線で結ぼう。



●

● fish



●

● yarn



●

● dog



●

● cat



●

● milk



●

● coin

② Fill in the blanks. 語群から選んで () に入れよう。

Japan

summer

photo

cookies

Nyan

black

dog

22

Day

Hana's Cat Day

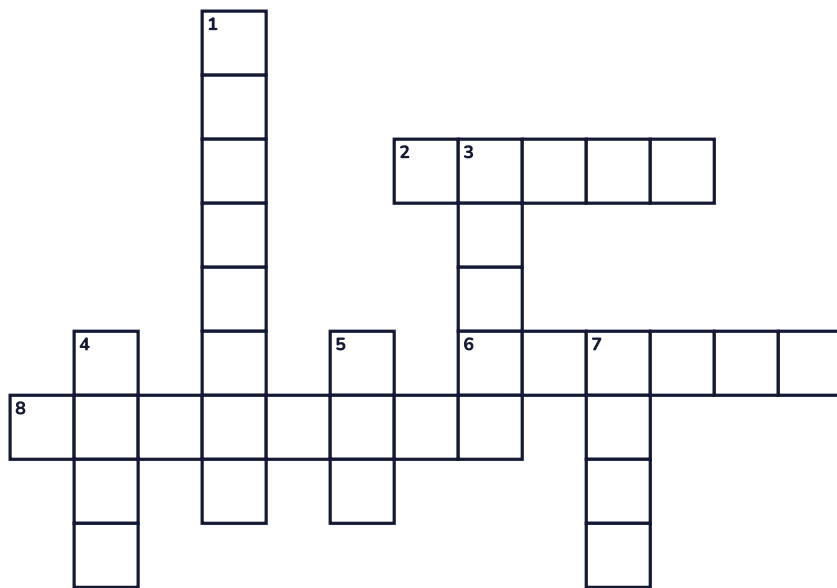
Today is February (1) _____. It is Cat Day in (2) _____. Hana makes cat (3) _____ with her mother. Her cat, Kuro, is (4) _____. Kuro sits by the window and says, "(5) _____!" Hana takes a (6) _____ of Kuro and shows it to her friends. Then Kuro falls asleep in the warm sun. Hana says, "Happy Cat (7) _____!"



Crossword Puzzle

Read the clues and fill in the puzzle. ヒントを読んで、クロスワードを完成させよう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____



Across →

- 2 The color of the night sky. (5)
 6 A baby cat. (6)
 8 The second month of the year. (8)

Down ↓

- 1 Long thin hairs on a cat's face. (8)
 3 Good things happen to you. You are _____. (5)
 4 The sound a cat makes in English. (4)
 5 An animal's foot. (3)
 7 A long part at the back of an animal. (4)



Word Search

Find the hidden words. かくれた単語を探そう (→ ↓ ↘ ↗)。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

N	H	F	L	O	O	A	W	P	U	R	R	T
T	S	V	G	F	S	O	D	E	P	C	O	I
S	A	T	U	Y	W	M	S	H	P	U	N	T
U	L	I	K	M	H	I	F	F	I	S	H	D
B	L	C	L	P	I	N	I	C	I	G	L	O
U	U	I	B	S	S	V	V	O	E	L	S	V
L	E	E	L	A	K	T	U	Y	S	U	P	F
M	K	G	A	B	E	M	O	C	A	T	K	G
T	Y	Y	C	R	R	E	G	I	U	P	F	B
R	L	T	K	T	S	T	B	S	P	A	W	Y
J	M	T	I	R	C	E	W	N	W	M	V	K
I	K	I	T	T	E	N	M	E	O	W	B	F
J	O	J	Y	E	Y	P	H	F	U	F	I	L

Find these words! 10

- ☐ BLACK
- ☐ CAT
- ☐ FISH
- ☐ KITTEN
- ☐ LUCKY
- ☐ MEOW
- ☐ PAW
- ☐ PURR
- ☐ TAIL
- ☐ WHISKERS

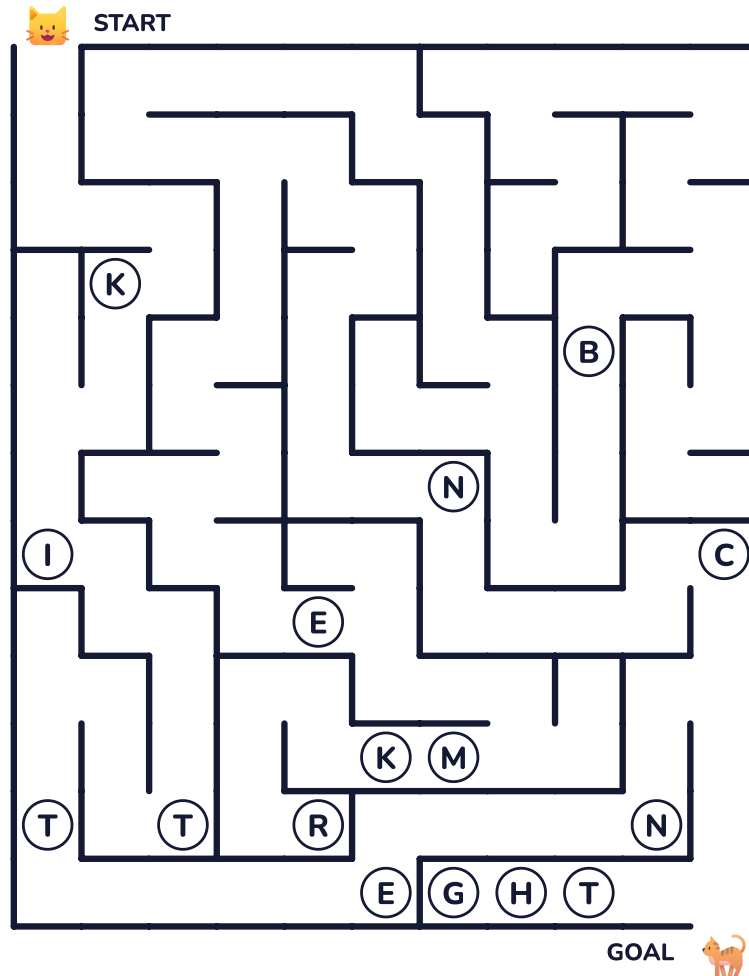


Maze & Sentences

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Help the kitten find its mother!

Collect the letters on the right path. What is the secret word? 正しい道の文字を集めると、ひみつの言葉になるよ。



Secret word: _____



Class Activity & Writing

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

If I had a cat, I would name it _____ because _____.

On Cat Day, I want to _____.



Trace & Color

Trace the words. Then color the picture! なぞって書こう。絵に色を塗ろう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____



cat



dog



fish



yarn



milk

Draw your Cat Day in Japan! 猫の日（2月22日）の絵を描こう。