

Single Kitten Syndrome

If you know anything about kittens, you know how playful they are. When wrestling together, they sometimes bite and scratch each other and yowl when it hurts. They are learning that this rough play is not the best way to make friends.

In order to become well-socialized cats, kittens need to learn appropriate behavior from each other. A human is not a substitute for a feline companion.

You can provide love and interactive play, but it's simply impossible to replicate the play behavior of another species. If they don't learn to play gently when they're young, kittens may develop play aggression. In other words, it may be cute when your kitten grabs your ankles when you walk by her, or when she playfully nips your fingers...but it will be far less cute when your cat is full grown and capable of doing more damage.

Many single kittens are returned because of play biting that's gotten out of control. Cat behaviorists believe that cats raised without feline companionship transfer their instinctive playful biting behavior onto humans.

In addition to teaching each other to inhibit predatory energy, litter box habits are established at a young age and kittens show each other how to go to the right place when nature calls.

Watching kittens play together is extremely entertaining. Cats raised together also provide each other with company when their humans aren't home. Alternatively, a lonely or bored cat can become anxious and destructive.

If you feel you are unable to care for two kittens, we encourage you to consider one of our wonderful adult cats instead. Many of these are

scarcely more than kittens themselves. They're still playful and friendly and most have learned good manners from being around other cats in their youth.

The difference between a kitten and a cat is only 6 months. A happy cat can bring you joy and companionship for twenty years so it's well worth setting them up for success in their early months.