



2007

Dogs and Cats

Marsha D. Broadway

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Broadway, Marsha D. (2007) "Dogs and Cats," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 28 : Iss. 3 , Article 6.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol28/iss3/6>

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Jenkins, Steve. *Dogs and Cats*. Illustrated by Steve Jenkins. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. ISBN 9780618507672. \$16.00. 40 p.

Reviewer: Marsha D. Broadway

Reading Level: Preschool, Primary

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Animal stories;

Subject: Dogs--Miscellanea--Juvenile literature.; Cats--Miscellanea--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

Dogs and Cats is a work of art--cut and torn paper collages began with handmade paper from ten countries. Miscellaneous facts about dogs and cats, their breeds, and their characteristics are divided into two sections, inverted, and placed back to back. Each section ends in the middle with an invitation to turn the book over and read about the other animal. The informational content is widely available in other sources; however, this book should be purchased for its artistic content. The texture, layering, and selection of paper give the illustrations dimension, personality, and sometimes motion. Cat icons in the dog section and vice versa encourage the reader to explore the other section of the book. Creative, clever, and certainly worth adding to a family, school, or public library collection.

Volume 28, no. 3 (Jan/Feb 2008)