

Spigot QuickTake~No. 95

Spigot Science Literacy Network Paw Tracker

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I'm sure if you have been a pet owner, your greatest worry was how you would locate your pet if it was lost. I spent many times going outside looking for my cat.

Overtime, she usually went under the deck, and I would have to figure out a creative way to get her out.



Now I have two new kittens, and I am always thinking about how to protect them. I'm sure most pet owners have heard of a microchip that is used for electronic identification. It is about the size of a grain of rice and is implanted between the pet's shoulder blades. If someone finds a pet with a microchip, they can locate the owner. This relies on someone else finding your pet.

PawTracker is a small lightweight GPS tracking device. It is a collar your pet wears that costs less than \$100. You track your pet's location by using a mobile app on your phone or tablet. You can see where the pet has been all day by checking the activity history. The PawTracker tells you the location of your pet in real time and there is no distance restriction. Pet owners love that they can check on their pets and know exactly where they are. I wish I had this so I didn't have to spend all those hours looking outside for my cat.

Discussion:

- Have you ever owned a pet? What kind?
- Did your pet get lost? What did you do to try to find it?
- What is PawTracker?
- Do you think PawTracker is a good idea to monitor pets? Why or Why not?

Photo Credit: PawTracker