

Do Cats Catch Human Yawns?

Experiment Instructions

Please ensure you have completed the Pre-Survey before filming

Thanks for taking part!

- For this study we are asking you to film two separate videos of your gorgeous cat
- Each video is 2 min long
- You will film your cat on two different days at around the same time of day
- Choose a time when your cat is interested in hanging out with you, but is not too sleepy
- There are two different 'conditions' for you to perform
- On one day film the 'yawning condition' and on another day the 'open-mouth condition'
- It does not matter in what order you film the videos
- Send both videos via [We Transfer](#) to catcatchyawn@gmail.com (for help see [here](#) and [here](#))

Filming Do's and Don'ts

- You need to be in a relaxed, quiet environment with your cat (e.g. sitting on sofa, floor)
- Position yourself so you are near your cat – they can sit on you or near you as long as you are within one metre of them
- Make sure you are in a position where your cat can see your face (but they don't need to look at you the whole time)
- Say out loud your name and your cat's name at the start of each video
- Try your best to be accurate with timing and don't perform actions after 1 minute is up
- We want to see your cat's lovely face for the entire video so keep it in the frame (profile is ok)
- If your cat moves too much, walks away etc. just stop filming and try again another time
- Don't touch your cat during filming or say anything other than what is prescribed in the condition instructions below, don't hold your cats face or force them to look at you

Any questions, email catcatchyawn@gmail.com

1. Yawning condition

For the first minute of this video, you need to yawn at your cat.....

- start filming and say your name and your cats name out loud
- yawn **3 times** during the first minute
- yawn as naturally as possible (if you feel a real yawn coming, use it)
- make normal 'yawn noises'
- after each yawn – say the word 'yawn' out loud (so we can easily count them later)
- after 1 minute has elapsed, stop yawning, but keep filming your cat's face until two minutes is up

2. Open-mouth condition

For this video you will do silent, open-mouth movements instead

- start filming and say your name and your cats name out loud
- perform an open-mouth movement **3 times** during the first minute
- to do the movement, just open your mouth wide, keep eyes open
- do not make any sounds with this movement
- after each open-mouth movement, say the word 'gape' out loud
- after 1 minute has elapsed, stop doing the movement but keep filming your cat's face until two minutes is up

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