

# Report on Cats

## Introduction

Cats, belonging to the family Felidae and the order Carnivora, are the smallest members of that family. The domesticated cat, scientifically known as *Felis catus*, has a fascinating history and may have taken the initiative to domesticate themselves by choosing to live in human-altered landscapes.

## Evolution and Success

Cats have been successful early on in their evolution, with their typical form established at a time when other modern mammalian types were not recognizable. Early cats may have resembled leopard cats (*Prionailurus bengalensis*) before the modern domestic cat (*F. catus*) took over before 3000 BCE.

## Significance

Cats have been valued for their exceptional ability to hunt mice and other rodents that posed a threat to grain stores. Their hunting prowess made them invaluable companions to humans, especially in agricultural settings.

Overall, cats have played a significant role in human history and continue to be cherished and valued for their unique traits and companionship.