

Scat the Cat

Materials:

- file folder, scissors, markers, tape
- construction paper (2 black, 1 blue, 1 yellow, 1 red, 1 green)

Directions:

- Cut out the shape of the cat from the ScatCat file (download here) on the front of the file folder. Cut the paper into 8" x 10" rectangles and insert inside the file folder in this order: black, blue, red, yellow, green, black. Tape the sides of the file folder and decorate the front with markers if you desire.
- Glue the words of the story below to the back of the file folder to help you tell it.
- Encourage the children to join in on the chorus.

Once there was a little black cat. (Hold up the file folder showing the black cat.) He was a magic cat because he could change his colors ~ (snap fingers) ~ just like that. All he had to say was:

CHORUS: **I'm Scat the Cat. I'm sassy and fat.**

And I can change my colors ~ (snap) ~ just like that!

One day Scat decided he was tired of being black. He wanted to be a new color so he said: **CHORUS**. (Remove the black sheet of paper to make the cat blue.) And he turned blue! Scat went down to the pond to look at himself in the water. Unfortunately, he fell in and he couldn't swim. Timmy Turtle came along and helped Scat get back on shore.

Scat decided he didn't want to be blue anymore, so he said: **CHORUS**. (Remove the blue sheet of paper to make the cat red.) And he turned red. He went walking down the street and everybody started laughing at him. "Whoever heard of a red cat!" they said.

Scat decided he didn't want to be red anymore, so he said: **CHORUS**. (Remove the red sheet of paper to make the cat yellow.) And he turned yellow. Scat went walking in the woods, and who did he run into but his cousin Leo the lion. "Grrrrrr!" roared Leo. "I'm the only cat who can be yellow."

Scat decided he better not be yellow anymore and he quickly said: **CHORUS**. (Remove the yellow sheet of paper to make the cat green.) Scat wanted to play with his brothers and sisters in the grass. He tried to play with them, but he was green like the grass and they couldn't see him.

Scat decided he didn't want to be blue, or red, or yellow, or green, so he said: **CHORUS**. (Remove the green sheet of paper to make the cat black.) Scat knew that being himself was the best thing to be. And do you know what? Being yourself is the best thing you can be, too. Because there's nobody else exactly like you. And I like you just the way you are!

Adaptations: Have children discuss what makes them unique and special.

Directions: Take a file folder and cut the cat pattern out of one side. Staple the ends of the folder together to make a pocket. Insert 7" x 10" sheets of construction paper in the pocket and remove one at a time as you tell the story.

This cat pattern can also be used to make cats from felt for the flannel board.

(Order the paper black, green, blue, yellow, red, black.)

