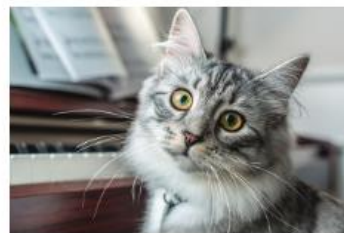


# Cats Don't Dig the Classics

Cats move to their own beat when it comes to music, according to a study reported in *National Geographic*.<sup>1</sup> Researchers at the University of Wisconsin studied how cats responded to music for humans vs that composed specifically for cats—music with a pitch one octave higher than people and in a tempo based on purring and suckling. They found cats mostly ignored the classical works and overwhelmingly

responded to their own special tunes.<sup>2</sup> Some even rubbed against the speaker.

"We're trying to get people to think more carefully about why they're playing music (for their pets) and who it's really benefiting," said lead researcher Charles Snowdon. So, leaving the radio on when your cat is alone may not be the company it wants. ■■■



## References

1. Williams AR. Cats dig their own kind of music. *National Geographic*. 2016;January.
2. Snowdon CT, Teie D, Savage M. Cats prefer species-appropriate music. *App Anim Behav Sci*. 2015;166:106-111.