# Wonderful World of Poop

## **Brown Poop**

- Formed little poop or toothpaste consistency poop of this color is normal. Yay! Your kitten has normal poop! Great job!
- Loose or diarrhea brown poop can indicate a parasite. Contact foster coordinator and get a poop sample for a fecal (keep poop in Ziploc bag in fridge)

### **Yellow Poop**

- Mustard yellow poop can be completely normal for kittens on formula or nursing from mom. Once weaned, poop should transition to brown
- Very smelly yellow or yellow diarrhea frequently indicates parasite infection. Contact foster coordinator for sick exam and bring a fecal sample with you

#### **Green Poop**

• Green poop (formed or diarrhea) may indicate a bacterial infection or giardia infection. Contact foster coordinator for sick exam and bring a fecal sample with you

#### **Beige/White Poop**

 Typically indicates an inability to absorb nutrients. This is an urgent situation and the kitten needs to be seen by the vet immediately! Contact foster coordinator for immediate exam

#### **Gray Poop**

 Frequently indicates overfeeding. Make sure your kitten is being fed an appropriate amount. Overfeeding leads to poor nutrient absorption, diarrhea and can cause serious issues. Decrease food given at feedings and start probiotics. Contact foster coordinator to alert to the situation but sick visit is only indicated with other sick signs or not responding to treatment.

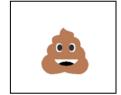
#### **Black Poop**

• Indicates bleeding in the upper GI tract which can occur for numerous reasons. Kitten will need to be examined by vet to determine the cause. Contact foster coordinator for sick exam.

#### **Red Poop**

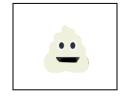
 Indicates bleeding and/or inflammation in the lower GI tract. This can be related to chronic diarrhea, bacterial infections, parasites or constipation. Contact foster coordinator for sick exam.

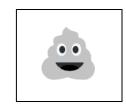




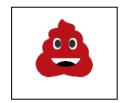












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Fecal Scoring Chart		PROPLAN VETERINARY DIETS
SCORE	SPECIMEN EXAMPLE	CHARACTERISTICS
1		<ul> <li>Very hard and dry</li> <li>Often expelled as individual pellets</li> <li>Requires much effort to expel from body</li> <li>Leaves no residue on ground when picked up</li> </ul>
2		<ul> <li>Firm, but not hard, pliable</li> <li>Segmented in appearance</li> <li>Little or no residue on ground when picked up</li> </ul>
3	120	<ul> <li>Log shaped, moist surface</li> <li>Little or no visible segmentation</li> <li>Leaves residue on ground, but holds form when picked up</li> </ul>
4		<ul> <li>Very moist and soggy</li> <li>Log shaped</li> <li>Leaves residue on ground and loses form when picked up</li> </ul>
5	A	<ul> <li>Very moist but has a distinct shape</li> <li>Present in piles rather than logs</li> <li>Leaves residue on ground and loses form when picked up</li> </ul>
6		<ul> <li>Has texture, but no defined shape</li> <li>Present as piles or spots</li> <li>Leaves residue on ground when picked up</li> </ul>
7		<ul> <li>Watery</li> <li>No texture</li> <li>Present in flat puddles</li> </ul>

## Wonderful World of Poop

The stool chart is a guide to aide foster families in assessing the health of their foster feline/canine and to better communicate with staff. If a foster kitten or puppy under 6 weeks of age and is also exhibiting 1-2 of the following symptoms: low energy, loss of appetite, weight loss or vomiting, this a serious medical concern and the pet will need to be brought to the SPCA medical team same day or early next day.

**1 – Constipation/Immediate Action:** Contact the Foster Coordinator ASAP and add water to wet food until an appointment with SPCA medical staff. Ideally same day to avoid a potential blockage.

**2 / 3 – Normal/Ideal Stool Quality:** Stool to be firm and pliable. To verify, squish it with a litter scoop to make sure it's the right consistency. Don't change foods and let the Foster Coordinator know when you are out of the specific food they are eating.

\*2: If notice any straining but no blood, closely monitor eating and drinking habits.

**4 / 5 – Soft Stools/Monitor Closely:** Notify the foster coordinator, collect a stool sample to bring in the same day and Fortiflora or Pro5x should be started. Take note of any conditions that may be contributing to loose stools: eating fast, more wet food vs. dry food, brand of food and any intestinal worms. Make sure to not change food without instructions from staff as this can upset their tummies. If no improvement within 5 days on the probiotics, set up an appointment.

**6 / 7 - Diarrhea/Immediate Action:** Contact the Foster Coordinator ASAP, collect a fecal sample and add water to wet food to keep from getting dehydrated until appointment with SPCA medical staff, ideally same day. Additional information that staff will need to know: Was the food changed? What are they eating? Any vomiting or lethargy?