

Home > News > Crave

crave

THE GADGET BLOG FROM CNET

What's Hot: [Mac OS X Lion](#) | [Sony tablets](#) | [HP TouchPad](#) | [Wii U](#) | [iPhone 5](#)

FILED UNDER: [CRAVE](#) | [DIGITAL MEDIA](#)

Amuse shelter cats with online remote-control toys



By: Amanda Kooser

AUGUST 11, 2011 10:05 AM PDT

Print E-mail

Recommend

Tweet 0

+1 0

Share

Post a comment



A robotic toy catches this kitty's eye.
(Credit: AprioriControl)

I'm writing this article with a large rescue cat draped across my keyboard (yes, it's hard to type). Not every feline is as fortunate to have a home.

Animal shelters have tried out kitty Webcams to boost adoption rates. [AprioriControl](#) is raising the bar with [iPet Companion](#), interactive online kitten playrooms that put viewers in control of feathery, flighty, and fluffy cat toys.

The kitty playrooms are currently up and running at shelters in Idaho, Iowa, and Oregon. I stopped off at the site for the **Clinton Humane Society** in Iowa where kittens named Dori, Nemo, Marlin, and Bruce rolled, tumbled, and attacked the remote-control toys.

Each shelter determines certain play hours. You may end up in a short queue when you drop by to play with the furry critters. The toys are attached to motors. Push the button on your browser to make them dance and whirl.

When it's your turn, you also control the direction of the Webcam. A live chat box lets you join in all the cooing and cooing from other users. You'll see gems like: "they r sooo cute lookit the kittys look it look it." It's easy to turn into a pile of text-speak mush when you're watching kittens play.