

Database for the Selection of Cat Accessories

Shelly Ann Buchannan

Alejandra Dubcovsky

Jonathan Leff

Group 5

Library 202-01

Professor Kristen Clark

4 October 2008

Part A, Section 1

We began the semester by reading an article by Donald A. Norman which provided an introduction to the issue of representation, and with it, an introduction to the more technical aspects of being a librarian: information representation and organization. Norman stressed that “representations that match our perceptual capabilities are simpler and easier to use than those that require reflection;” (Norman, date, p. 74) or in other words, useful representations select for the important aspects, are appropriate for the user, and are appropriate for the task designed (ibid, p. 52). But alongside Norman we read the introduction of *To Classify is Human* by Star and Browker, which stressed how different people and different communities brought their own set of priorities to the issue of representation. So from the very beginning of the semester, we were faced with an inherent tension: on the one hand, there is the need for representation, and on the other, there are the problems that any Classification and/or Systems of IR lead to, such as filtering information or favoring the views of a particular racial/political/gendered/socio-economic group. So how can we overcome this tension? The first answer came from a chapter in *Text Information Retrieval Systems*. In this chapter, Meadow emphasized how IR tries to find unique attributes of records, separate records from one another, but also collocate records that are similar. Thus, as van Rijsbergen had argued almost thirty years earlier, if Data Retrieval is about “looking for an exact match,” Information Retrieval helps to “find those items which partially match the request and then select from those a few of the best matching ones” (Rijsbergen, 1979, p.5). So how do databases fit into IR?

Databases are the collections of information, which are designed to allow and facilitate searches by users. An entity is the basic unit in a database; regardless of whether this entity is a single item or a set of items, it is represented as a record. These records in these databases should

address the needs of the users: they are “developed by people for a purpose or a function” (Coyle, 2005, p.160). Hence, a well-put together database thinks about its user’s users’(?) needs and expectations. And, as the two technical articles from Wikipedia (on “Relational Model” and on “Relational Database”) explained, what is essential about these records is how they are entered and what relationship they have with one another.

But this organization is only as good as its designers or cataloguers. So we are back where we started: troubled by how to represent what is relevant and to do so in an effective way. Hubbard explains that although libraries and librarians are usually not involved in the process of creating the framework on which will be added, they should be! “The fact that information standards are being developed and not by librarians should be seen a call to arms by the profession” (Hubbard, 2006, p.4). But how does one carry this “call to arms?” Coyle calls for a scholarly involvement in the creation of standards and norms for records. These standards not only help users, but also cooperating and collaborating institutions (Coyle, 2005, p. 163). Svenonius comments on the values (and challenges) of including “controlled vocabulary” to streamline and normalize the retrieval in searches— however, she concluded that a combination of controlled vocabulary and free text was perhaps the most inclusive. Adam Mathes takes these findings a step further by exploring user creation of metadata. If Coyle wanted to rouse the profession and Svenonius presented a more balanced approach, Mathes urged for the examination of a different way of creating metadata that was not based on an author or a particular professional cataloguer, but on the user. As Coyle concluded, this is an exciting time, in which the basics of metadata are being molded and reshaped to meet the needs and demand of 21st century IR (Coyle, 2005).

References

- Bowker, G. C., & Star, S. L. (1999). *Sorting things out: Classification and its consequences*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press. Retrieved January 28, 2008 from <http://epl.scu.edu:16080/~gbowker/classification/>
- Coyle, K. (2005). Managing technology: Understanding metadata and its purpose. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 31(2), 160-163.
- Meadow, C. T., Boyce, B. R., & Kraft, D. H. (2000). *Text information retrieval systems* (2nd ed.). San Diego, CA: Academic Press, Inc.
- Norman, D. A. (1993). The Power of Representation. In *Things that make us smart: Defending human attributes in the age of the machine*. New York: Basic Books.
- Relational database. (2008, September 21). In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 00:54, September 23, 2008, from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Relational_database&oldid=239903482
- Relational model. (2008, September 11). In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 00:55, September 23, 2008, from http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Relational_model&oldid=237655647
- Svenonius, E. (1986). Unanswered questions in the design of controlled vocabularies. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*, 37(5), 331-340.
- van Rijsbergen, C. J. (1979). *Information retrieval* (2nd ed.). London: Butterworths.

Part A, Section 2

Statement of Purpose-

Collection:

Cat toys and cat accessories are designed to entertain and meet the needs of cats. Cats need toys and accessories as an outlet for their instinctive prey-chasing behaviors and hunting instincts as well as an outlet to help fight boredom... and save the owner's furniture!

Statement of Purpose:

There are a wide variety of options to choose from when considering which toys and accessories to buy for a cat. The purpose of this database is to assist cat owners, potential cat owners, and the general pet-gift-giving public in the selection of cat's toys and accessory.

Part A, Section 3

Our intended user group consists of individuals looking for the appropriate cat toys and accessories for a cat. These users can be cat owners, potential cat owners, and the general pet-gift-giving public. With the wide variety of toys and accessories available for purchase, selecting the right one could turn into a complicated and overwhelming experience.

This database will allow users to find important facts such as: name, material, purpose, size, dimensions, and price-range of the cat toy and accessory being considered for purchase. Our group designed a database that allows an individual to compare and find the appropriate cat toy or accessory. We decided that our database should be useful for people who either have a lot of toys, and are thus looking for a *particular* accessory, or for individuals who do not know that much about cat toys/accessories but have specific needs and/or limitations (such as size or weight) that need to be met.

Part B

Part B, Section 1

Unit of Description (Entity):

Cat toys and cat accessories.

Original Record Structure and Rules:

1. **ID:** Each new record will contain a unique identification number. This number is sequential, starting with one and proceeding from there. The ID number is the crucial link between the actual product and the record in the database. Both cataloger/indexer and the consumer are able to track the item with this unique identifier to search the product and compare it to other products that may be available.
2. **Brand:** Specifies the Brand. This field is an important contribution for the consumer of cat toys/accessories. A capitalist society is dependent on the use of identifying product brands, which ultimately guide consumers to a purchase. Some consumers rely exclusively on a brand in making their purchase-decisions, making this field extremely important to the database, as this is a consumer driven site.

3. **Name:** This field specifies the name of a particular cat toy/accessory. This field will help users identify the items they are looking for.
4. **Indoor-Outdoor-Both:** Specifies cat toys/accessories for outdoor, indoor, or both. The specification of this field allows the consumer to narrow their searches according to what type of feline friend they are shopping for.
5. **Purpose:** Establishes the purpose of the cat toy/accessory. As a consumer, this field lends guidance to the sometimes-overwhelming task of picking a feline gift, as it gives the consumer a roadmap to the toy or accessory. If one is not a feline connoisseur of toys and accessories, this field is crucial to picking just the right purchase for the lucky puss.
6. **Price Range:** We decided to establish six price ranges for the cat toys/accessories: \$0.00-\$9.99, \$10.00-\$19.99, \$20.00-\$29.99, \$30.00-\$49.99, \$50.00-\$99.99, and \$100.00+. This will allow users to determine from a strictly monetary point of view which cat toys/accessories suit their needs.
7. **Material:** The material of a product is important since some users and/or their cats might have allergies or particular aversion (or preference) for a type of material. We provided several materials to choose from: Carpet, Felt, Manmade Fiber, Natural Fiber, Nylon, Other Metal, Plastic, Rubber, Sisal, Stainless Steel, and Wood— if the cat toy/accessory is of a material not on the list, it will be listed as other and a note can be put in the Additional Info field. This attribute allows users to search for different materials found in the cat toys/accessories.
8. **Color:** Cats might get excited by a toy in a particular color and/or users might want a cat toy/accessory that does not clash with their home furnishings. We included pre-set color categories: Black, Blue, Brown, Green, Pink, Red, Silver, White, and Yellow. This attribute allows users to search for particular colors.
9. **Weight:** This field establishes the weight of the particular cat toy/accessories. Some items might be heavy, while others very light. Their weight and thus the easiness with which the item can be move might impact the decisions of consumers.
10. **Additional Info-** This field allows the users to read additional information about the cat toy/accessory; this additional information might be a slogan or a user-review which would give the users additional (and often personal) access into the item.

PART B, Section 2:

Original Rules for Cataloging:

The information required for entry in this database is product brand, product name and product information description. The optional information that will be helpful to users but not necessary for cataloging purposes is the additional information category. If this information is not available at the time of entry to the cataloger, leave the field blank. Each record will be identified by a number starting with 1 and logged in succession from there. The cataloger will start with the ID and proceed with entry in the field order as listed below.

1. **ID:** Each new record will contain a unique identification number. This is a simple numerical system beginning with the number 1 and proceeding from there. Each item is very specific to the ID number and it cannot be replicated.

When entering the ID number if the cataloger replicates a number that has already been used an error box will appear and the cataloger will need to assess which ID has been replicated. DB/Textworks will notify the cataloger if a replication is made, but it will be the responsibility of the cataloger to manually change the replication.

2. **Brand:** The cataloger is able to enter the brand of the item as free-text. If there is no brand available, leave the field blank.
3. **Name:** The cataloger is able to enter the item name in this field if the ID number has been recognized and accepted, as free-text. If there is no item name available, leave the field blank.

4. **Indoor-Outdoor-Both:** Use the guidelines provided for the item from the manufacturer.
In some cases the cataloger will not be provided with this information and must leave the field blank.
5. **Purpose:** For this field the cataloger will reference the manufacturer's usage guidelines.
The three uses that have been supplied from the manufacturer fall within-Play, Care, Food. These categories are mutually exclusive and it is important that the cataloger enters the accurate information.
6. **Price Range:** The cataloger will have ranges to choose from in the validation list: \$0.00-\$9.99, \$10.00-\$19.99, \$20.00-\$29.99, \$30.00-\$49.99, \$50.00-\$99.99, and \$100.00+. The cataloger will need to consult the manufacturer information that is provided with the item to determine the proper ranges to input in this field.
7. **Material:** The cataloger will use the product information provided to identify the items material. The database has a pre-set list of material options for the cataloger to choose from-Carpet, Felt, Manmade Fiber, Natural Fiber, Nylon, Other Metal, Plastic, Rubber, Sisal, Stainless Steel, and Wood. If the cataloger finds that the manufacturer has not listed the material or if the item is made of material not found in the pre-set list, the cataloger must choose the category-Other.
8. **Color:** The cataloger will use the information provided by the manufacturer. The database has pre-set categories-Black, Blue, Brown, Green, Pink, Red, Silver, White, and Yellow. If the cataloger finds that the manufacturer has not disclosed a color or the color provided does not fit into any of the pre-set categories on the validation list, the cataloger must choose NA.

9. **Weight** - The cataloger will use the information provided from the manufacturer. The database has pre-set categories that are exclusively identified by pounds. Any other option that is given, i.e.-no weight or listed in kilograms/ounces-will be identified by the cataloger as unknown. The only acceptable categories that have been pre-set are under 1 lbs., 1-2 lbs., 2-5lbs., 5-10 lbs.
10. **Additional Info**- This field represents the marketing strategy of the producer of the item. Many times it will be a catch phrase, other times a testimonial. The cataloger/indexer is to enter the information as it appears on the packaging. Failure to do so is viewed as non-compliance by the manufacturer and could lead to the company pulling the item from the website. If the item does not have additional information, the cataloger/indexer is instructed to leave the field blank.

PART B, Section 3:

Textbase Information

Textbase: C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\LIBR202 DBText
DB\Clark202Fall08Cat
Created: 9/23/2008 7:22:49 PM
Modified: 9/24/2008 8:23:34 PM

Field Summary:

1. ID: Automatic Number(next avail=18, increm=1), Word
2. Brand: Text, Word
3. Name: Text, Word
4. Indoor or Outdoor: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list
5. Purpose: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list
6. Price Range: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list
7. Material: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list
8. Color: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list

9. Weight: Text, Word

Validation: valid-list

10. Additional Info: Text, Word

Log file enabled, showing 'Name'

Leading articles: a an the

Stop words: a an and by for from in of the to

XML Match Fields:

1. ID

Textbase Defaults:

Default indexing mode: SHARED IMMEDIATE

Default sort order: <none>

Textbase passwords:

Master password = "

0 Access passwords:

No Silent password

Original Validation Fields:

Indoor or Outdoor:

Both

Indoor

Outdoor

Purpose:

Care

Food

Play

Price Range:

\$0.00-\$9.99

\$10.00-\$19.99

\$100.00+

\$20.00-\$29.99

\$30.00-\$49.99

\$50.00-\$99.99

Material:

Carpet
Felt
Man-made Fiber
Natural Fiber
Nylon
Other
Other Metal
Plastic
Rubber
Sisal
Stainless Steel
Wood

Color:

Black
Blue
Brown
Green
NA
Pink
Red
Silver
White
Yellow

Weight:

1-2 lbs.
10-20 lbs.
2-5 lbs.
5-10 lbs.
Under 1 lb.
Unknown

Original Records:

ID 1

Brand Simple Solution

Name Simple Solution Indoor/Outdoor Repellent for Dogs & Cats

Indoor or Outdoor Outdoor

Purpose Care

Price Range \$0.00-\$9.99

Material Other

Color NA

Weight 1-2 lbs.

Additional Info Keeps cats and dogs from straying into forbidden areas

ID 2

Brand Lambert Kay

Name Lambert Kay

Indoor or Outdoor Both

Purpose Care

Price Range \$10.00-\$19.99

Material Other

Color NA

Weight 1-2 lbs.

Additional Info Keeps cats away from furniture, plants, etc.

ID 3

Name CatStop™ Automatic Outdoor Cat Deterrent

Indoor or Outdoor Outdoor

Purpose Care

Price Range \$50.00-\$99.99

Material Other

Color NA

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Battery operated

ID 4

Brand Whisker City

Name I'm the Cat's Meow Tank

Indoor or Outdoor Both

Purpose Play

Price Range \$0.00-\$9.99

Material Natural Fiber

Color Brown

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Your cat will wear this for about 5 seconds

ID 5

Brand Whisker City

Name Teacup Princess Kitty Bed

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Care

Price Range \$30.00-\$49.99

Material Man-made Fiber

Color Pink

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Give kitty a cutesy-wutesy place to curl up!

ID 6

Name Panic Mouse Undercover Mouse Cat Toy

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Play

Price Range \$20.00-\$29.99

Material Other

Color NA

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Your cat can pretend to chase a mouse

ID 7

Brand Petlinks System

Name Pure Commotion Electronic Cat Toy

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Play

Price Range \$20.00-\$29.99

Material Other

Color Red

Weight Unknown

Additional Info You may trip over it, but kitty will love it!

ID 8

Name Original Drinkwell Pet Fountain

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Food

Price Range \$30.00-\$49.99

Material Other

Color White

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Giving kitty fresh running water keeps him or her out of your toilet.

ID 9

Brand PetZazz

Name Silver Cat Bowl with Fish Ornament

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Food

Price Range \$0.00-\$9.99

Material Stainless Steel

Color Silver

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Your cat will love the picture of the fish on the front of the bowl!

ID 10

Brand Feed & Toss

Name 12 oz. Single Cat Bowl

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Food

Price Range \$0.00-\$9.99

Material Plastic

Color Pink

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Cat food bowl with disposable liners. Also available in blue.

ID 11

Brand LitterMaid

Name Elite Mega Advanced Automatic Self-Cleaning
Litter Box (LME9000)

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Care

Price Range \$100.00+

Material Other

Color White

Weight Unknown

Additional Info For the cat who's constantly on the go.

ID 12

Brand Kitty Go Crazy

Name Interactive Toy

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Play

Price Range \$20.00-\$29.99

Material Other

Color Blue

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Three cat toys in one! Kitty will go crazy and you will too!

ID 13

Name Miracle Beam Laser Cat Toy

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Play

Price Range \$0.00-\$9.99

Material Other Metal

Color Silver

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Cats love laser pointers. You can sit in one spot and make your cat run all over the place!

ID 14

Brand Bergan

Name TurboScratcher Cat Toy and Refill Scratcher

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Play

Price Range \$10.00-\$19.99

Material Other

Color NA

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Kitty chases the ball around an outside track. It has a corrugated cardboard insert in the middle for kitty to scratch.

ID 15

Name Soft Claws Nail Caps for Cats

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Care

Price Range \$20.00-\$29.99

Material Plastic

Color NA

Weight Unknown

Additional Info An alternative to de-clawing, Glues onto your cat's nails. Good luck!

ID 16

Brand Prevue

Name Jumbo Ferret & Cat Cage

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Care

Price Range \$100.00+

Material Other Metal

Color NA

Weight Unknown

Additional Info For those of you who want to put their cat in a cage.

ID 17

Name Corner Scratcher

Indoor or Outdoor Indoor

Purpose Care

Price Range \$10.00-\$19.99

Material Sisal

Color Brown

Weight Unknown

Additional Info Very practical. Keeps kitty from scratching corners of walls. I wonder if they make one for sofas?

Part C

PART C, Section 1:

Revisions to Original Rules and Record Structure:

In devising the database, we noticed a number of factors. First of all, we learned that it was easier to create the database before setting the rules. This was due in part to the necessity of learning how the database program functioned. The original rules were based on conversations we had on how the data could best be categorized and described. As we began creating the database, we discovered that the possible settings for the rules were shaped by how the program worked. For example, in the case of the category “Weight”, we found that not all items were measured in terms of weight. Some were measured in terms of height, width, length, or circumference. Therefore, having a category based solely on weight with validation fields containing weight ranges was rather limiting for both the user who wanted to search by a measurement other than weight *and* for the cataloger who wanted to list the item by measurements other than weight.

We also discovered that having term-indexed fields meant the entries could be searched by including either \geq , $=$ or \leq before the term was searched. This allowed for greater retrieval of records, and made for more efficient searching of fields such as “ID” and “Price,” especially since the use of validation lists required both the cataloger and the user to enter a term exactly as it appeared in the validation list or otherwise the term could not be properly retrieved. For example, if the validation was “\$20.00-\$29.99”, one had to enter either “\$20.00” or “\$29.99”, but not “25” or “ ≥ 25 ”.

1. **ID:** Each new record will contain a unique identification number. This number is sequential, starting with one and proceeding from there. The ID number is the crucial link between the actual product and the record in the database. Both cataloger/indexer and the consumer are able to track the item with this unique identifier to search the product and compare it to other products that may be available.
2. **Brand:** Specifies the Brand. This field is an important contribution for the consumer of cat toys/accessories. A capitalist society is dependent on the use of identifying product brands, which ultimately guide consumers to a purchase. Some consumers rely exclusively on a brand in making their purchase-decisions, making this field extremely important to the database, as this is a consumer driven site.
3. **Name:** This field specifies the name of a particular cat toy/accessory. This field will help users identify the items they are looking for.
4. **Indoor-Outdoor-Both:** Specifies cat toys/accessories for outdoor, indoor, or both. The specification of this field allows the consumer to narrow their searches according to what type of feline friend they are shopping for.
5. **Purpose:** Establishes the purpose of the cat toy/accessory. As a consumer, this field lends guidance to the sometimes-overwhelming task of picking a feline gift, as it gives the consumer a roadmap to the toy or accessory. If one is not a feline connoisseur of toys and accessories, this field is crucial to picking just the right purchase for the lucky puss.
6. **Price Range:** We decided to revise this field, and instead of establishing six price ranges for the cat toys/accessories, we created a field that simply listed the price of the item.
7. **Material:** The material of a product is important since some users and/or their cats might have allergies or particular aversion (or preference) for a type of material. We provided several materials to choose from: Carpet, Felt, Manmade Fiber, Natural Fiber, Nylon, Other Metal, Plastic, Rubber, Sisal, Stainless Steel, and Wood— if the cat toy/accessory is of a material not on the list, it will be listed as other and a note can be put in the Additional Info field. This attribute allows users to search for different materials found in the cat toys/accessories.
8. **Color:** Cats might get excited by a toy in a particular color and/or users might want a cat toy/accessory that does not clash with their home furnishings. We included pre-set color categories: Black, Blue, Brown, Green, Pink, Red, Silver, White, and Yellow. This attribute allows users to search for particular colors.
9. **Dimensions:** Since many cat owners live in small apartments or homes with limited space, we thought it would be important to identify the dimensions of the cat toy/accessory. Users might want to make their selection of a cat toy/accessory based on its size.

10. **Additional Info-** This field allows the users to read additional information about the cat toy/accessory; this additional information might be a slogan or a user-review which would give the users additional (and often personal) access into the item.

Revised Rules for Cataloging:

The information required for entry in this database is product brand, product name and product information description. The optional information that will be helpful to users but is not necessary for cataloging purposes is the additional information category. If this information is not available at the time of entry to the cataloger, leave the field blank. Each record will be identified by a number starting with 1 and logged in succession from there. The cataloger will start with the ID and proceed with entry in the field order as listed below.

1. **ID:** Each new record will contain a unique identification number. This is a simple numerical system beginning with the number 1 and proceeding from there. Each item is very specific to the ID number and it cannot be replicated. When entering the ID number if the cataloger replicates a number that has already been used an error box will appear and the cataloger will need to assess which ID has been replicated. DB/Textworks will notify the cataloger if a replication is made, but it will be the responsibility of the cataloger to manually change the replication.
2. **Brand:** The cataloger is able to enter the brand of the item as free-text. If there is no brand available, leave the field blank.
3. **Name:** The cataloger is able to enter the item name in this field if the ID number has been recognized and accepted, as free-text. If there is no item name available, leave the field blank.

4. **Indoor or Outdoor:** Use the guidelines provided for the item from the manufacturer. In some cases the cataloger will not be provided with this information and must either leave the field blank or make an educated guess.
5. **Purpose:** For this field the cataloger will reference the manufacturer's usage guidelines. The three uses that have been supplied from the manufacturer fall within Play, Care or Food. These categories are mutually exclusive and it is important that the cataloger enters the accurate information.
6. **Price:** The cataloger will be able to enter the price freely in the field in decimal format (e.g. \$1.99, \$0.99, etc.). DB/Textworks does not contain an option to automatically enter currency symbols such as dollar signs or euro signs. However, the user will not need to enter the currency symbol in order to successfully query this field.
7. **Material:** The cataloger will use the product information provided to identify the item's material. The database has a pre-set list of material options for the cataloger to choose from-Carpet, Felt, Manmade Fiber, Natural Fiber, Nylon, Other, Other Metal, Plastic, Rubber, Sisal, Stainless Steel, and Wood. If the cataloger finds that the manufacturer has not listed the material or if the item is made of material not found in the pre-set list, the cataloger must choose the category-Other.
8. **Color:** The cataloger will use the information provided by the manufacturer. The database has pre-set categories-Black, Blue, Brown, Green, NA, Pink, Red, Silver, White, and Yellow. If the cataloger finds that the manufacturer has not disclosed a color or the color provided does not fit into any of the pre-set categories on the validation list, the cataloger must choose NA.

9. **Dimensions-** The cataloger will use the information provided from the manufacturer.

This is a free-text field that allows the cataloger to enter dimensions in terms of weight or size as provided by the manufacturer.

10. **Additional Info-** This field represents the marketing strategy of the producer of the item.

Many times it will be a catch phrase, other times a testimonial. The cataloger/indexer is to enter the information as it appears on the packaging. Failure to do so is viewed as non-compliance by the manufacturer and could lead to the company pulling the item from the website. If the item does not have additional information, the cataloger/indexer is instructed to leave the field blank.

Revised Textbase Information:

Textbase: C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\Desktop\LIBR202 DBText
DB\Clark202Fall08Cat

Created: 9/23/2008 7:22:49 PM

Modified: 9/29/2008 10:51:41 PM

Field Summary:

1. ID: Automatic Number (next avail=18, increm=1), Term
2. Brand: Text, Word
3. Name: Text, Word
4. Indoor or Outdoor: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list
5. Purpose: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list
6. Price: Number, Term
7. Material: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list
8. Color: Text, Word
Validation: valid-list
9. Dimensions: Text, Word
10. Additional Info: Text, Word

Log file enabled, showing 'Name'

Leading articles: a an the

Stop words: a an and by for from in of the to

XML Match Fields:

1. ID

Textbase Defaults:

Default indexing mode: SHARED IMMEDIATE

Default sort order: <none>

Textbase passwords:

Master password = "

0 Access passwords:

No Silent password

Revised Validation Fields:

Indoor or Outdoor:

Both

Indoor

Outdoor

Purpose:

Care

Food

Play

Material:

Carpet

Felt

Man-made Fiber

Natural Fiber

Nylon

Other

Other Metal

Plastic

Rubber

Sisal

Stainless Steel

Wood

Color:

Black

Blue

Brown

Green

NA

Pink

Red

Silver

White

Yellow

Revised Records:

ID 1

Brand: Simple Solution
Name: Simple Solution Indoor/Outdoor Repellent for Dogs & Cats
Indoor or Outdoor: Outdoor
Purpose: Care
Price: \$9.99
Material: Other
Color: NA
Dimensions: 1-2 lbs.
Additional Info: Keeps cats and dogs from straying into forbidden areas

ID 2

Brand: Lambert Kay
Name: Boundary Indoor/Outdoor Cat Repellent from Lambert Kay
Indoor or Outdoor: Both
Purpose: Care
Price: \$12.99
Material: Other
Color: NA
Dimensions: 1-2 lbs.
Additional Info: Keeps cats away from furniture, plants, etc.

ID 3

Name: CatStop™ Automatic Outdoor Cat Deterrent
Indoor or Outdoor: Outdoor
Purpose: Care
Price: \$75.99
Material: Other
Color: NA
Dimensions: approximately 5 18"H w/ stake
Additional Info: Battery operated

ID 4

Brand: Whisker City
Name: I'm the Cat's Meow Tank
Indoor or Outdoor: Both
Purpose: Play
Price: \$7.99
Material: Natural Fiber
Color: Brown
Dimensions: Sizes: Small & Large
Additional Info: This brown tank is outlined in a wild leopard-print and reads "I'm the cat's meow" with rhinestone detail. Your cat will wear this for about 5 seconds

ID 5

Brand: Whisker City
Name: Teacup Princess Kitty Bed
Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor
Purpose: Care
Price: \$34.99
Material: Man-made Fiber
Color: Pink
Dimensions: 57" in circumference and 4" high.
Additional Info: Give kitty a cutesy-wutesy place to curl up!

ID 6

Name: Panic Mouse Undercover Mouse Cat Toy
Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor
Purpose: Play
Price: \$29.99
Material: Other
Color: NA
Dimensions: Cover measures 23.5" diameter.
Additional Info: Your cat can pretend to chase a mouse

ID 7

Brand: Petlinks System
Name: Pure Commotion Electronic Cat Toy
Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor
Purpose: Play
Price: \$24.99
Material: Other
Color: Red
Dimensions: Unknown
Additional Info: You may trip over it, but kitty will love it!

ID 8

Name: Original Drinkwell Pet Fountain
Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor
Purpose: Food
Price: \$49.99
Material: Other
Color: White
Dimensions: 9" W x 11" D x 7 ¼" H.
Additional Info: Worth the price to keep kitty out of your toilet.

ID 9

Brand: PetZazz
Name: Silver Cat Bowl with Fish Ornament
Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor
Purpose: Food
Price: \$5.99
Material: Stainless Steel
Color: Silver
Dimensions: 5.5" x 2"
Additional Info: Your cat won't even notice the picture of the fish on the front of the bowl!

ID 10

Brand: Feed & Toss
Name: 12 oz. Single Cat Bowl
Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor
Purpose: Food
Price : 3.99
Material: Plastic
Color: Pink
Dimensions: Unknown
Additional Info: Cat food bowl with disposable liners. Also available in blue.

ID 11

Brand: LitterMaid
Name: Elite Mega Advanced Automatic Self-Cleaning Litter Box (LME9000)
Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor
Purpose: Care
Price: \$169.99
Material: Other
Color: White
Dimensions: Unknown
Additional Info: For the cat who's constantly on the go, and the cat owner with money to burn.

ID 12

Brand: Kitty Go Crazy
Name: Interactive Toy
Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor
Purpose: Play
Price: \$29.99
Material: Other
Color: Blue
Dimensions: Unknown
Additional Info: Three cat toys in one! Kitty will go crazy and you will too!

ID 13

Name: Miracle Beam Laser Cat Toy

Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor

Purpose: Play

Price: \$7.99

Material: Other Metal

Color: Silver

Dimensions: Unknown

Additional Info: Cats love laser pointers. You make your cat run all over the place while you relax on the couch!

ID 14

Brand: Bergan

Name: TurboScratcher Cat Toy and Refill Scratcher

Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor

Purpose: Play

Price: \$11.99

Material: Other

Color: NA

Dimensions: 16" Diameter x 1.88"

Additional Info: Kitty chases the ball around an outside track. It has a corrugated cardboard insert in the middle for kitty to scratch.

ID 15

Name: Soft Claws Nail Caps for Cats

Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor

Purpose: Care

Price: \$21.99

Material: Plastic

Color: NA

Dimensions: Small, Medium, Large

Additional Info: An alternative to de-clawing, Glues onto your cat's nails. For the masochist. Good luck!

ID 16

Brand: Prevue

Name: Jumbo Ferret & Cat Cage

Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor

Purpose: Care

Price: \$219.99

Material: Other Metal

Color: NA

Dimensions: Unknown

Additional Info: We've all had those moments where we want to put our cat in a cage.

ID 17

Name: Corner Scratcher

Indoor or Outdoor: Indoor

Purpose: Care

Price: \$19.99

Material: Sisal

Color: Brown

Dimensions: 9.8 x 5.5 x 4.9 inches.

Additional Info: Very practical. Keeps kitty from scratching corners of walls. I wonder if they make one for sofas?

PART C, Section 2:

Group 5 Assessment

Our group has worked well together. We have one member in Florida, one in San Francisco, and another in Davis, but have managed to communicate effectively about time commitments and used Skype to have weekly phone meetings. This frequent, friendly and supportive communications was crucial in tackling this project. Each of us came to the group with varying skills and we were encouraged by each other to utilize and inspire the others.

When reviewing the database itself, we learned by trial and error. By input and modification, we discovered the necessary components and importance of the various fields. As a consumer based data-base we felt that the use of keywords was a crucial element to help the potential buyer in the search for cat toys and accessories. By using keywords, the user was able to make certain assumptions when entering the text in the search box; and if the language was in proximity to the key words we associated with the product, the buyer would be rewarded with a successful search and item to possibly buy. We used free-text because is that the way that people naturally speak and thus it would be the most common way they search for items. After looking at some of our fields, we realized that we could have added an additional field for shipping cost, which would be crucial piece of information since our database supports an online buying environment. Some of the fields, such as the cost, will need to be maintained, due to the nature of capitalism and the ever changing economy. In the way we set up the database, the cataloger/indexer is not given a rule to check this field each time new merchandise is received.

All in all, the project was manageable because our group worked so well together and communicated. We valued each other as a team and that reflected in the commitment that we had to getting the project done and meeting our pre-set deadlines throughout the assignment. DB/Texworks was not very intuitive for the builder, but because of a background working in databases, our Cat Accessory/Toy Database is now hopefully a project we will be able to add to our e-portfolios and an asset for future librarianship.

Individual Assessments

- Shelly Ann Buchanan

When I first read the rubric for this assignment, I panicked. Technical applications, like database design, have always been something I have avoided. I am a self-proclaimed book pusher, but understand the importance of technology in the contemporary library. I feel very lucky to have the group mates that I have, because my apprehension about technology was at least partially abated. Our choice of cat toys and accessories enabled our group to explore the huge terrain of ‘Catville’ as I call it, and realize that in our very small database, we leave a lot of room for future work in building fields that describe the almost endless possibilities of items for our friendly feline. As a person that took a 10-year hiatus between high school and college, I find group work to be sometimes challenging, but an accurate representation of the ‘real’ work world. Collaboration is a key component to every job that I have had, and it is important that those in academia are exposed to it prior to employment.

- Alejandra Dubcovsky

This is my first semester in the MLIS program and I am living in Florida, so I was really nervous about being able to successfully complete this project *and* properly contribute to my group. My first order of business was to familiarize myself with DB/Textworks— it can be a quirky and not very user-friendly program. Then we all met as a group, and there were other people in my team who were more technology savvy. So together we are each able to bring to the table our own expertise. So after two successful group meetings via Skype, we had clear guidelines and responsibilities. I am generally resistant to team work, but I learned a lot from this team: they caught the mistakes I had made and gave me important suggestions and recommendations.

- Jonathan Leff

I must admit I found the assignment a bit overwhelming when I first looked at it. As I dove into the project, I was also rather flummoxed by the DB/Textworks program, as I found it to be not very user friendly, and rather clunky and archaic. In some of my early moments of panic, I would send frantic emails to my co-group members, especially as I was not always sure of what my role was, other than creating the database itself. After I got the hang of the database, I actually had fun setting it up. I facilitated the task by searching for cat products at the PetSmart website (<http://www.petsmart.com/>). They had quite a variety of items to choose from, and I was able to populate all the fields. Being a cat owner, I know that there is a fair amount of absurdity involved in owning one, and I brought this absurd outlook to bear on some of their products and their intended uses, especially in relation to how I felt they would actually work. All in all, I was happy to work with this group, and feel I learned a lot from this project.

Authors: Jonathan Leff Christopher A Romano Stephanie Gilbert Singh Nair. Improving pharmaceutical innovation by building a more comprehensive database on drug development and use. Authors: Gregory W Daniel Alexis Caz Morgan H Romine line Audibert Jonathan S Leff Mark B McClellan. Health Aff (Millwood) 2015 Feb;34(2):319-27. Mark B. McClellan is a senior fellow and director of the Health Care Innovation and Value Initiative at the Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform at Brookings. View Article. Download full-text PDF. Selection of clinically meaningful primary endpoints in phase 3 clinical trials in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Authors: Williamson Z Bradford Alan H Cohen Jonathan A Leff. Semantic Scholar profile for Shelly Buchanan, with fewer than 50 highly influential citations. This paper discusses the phenomenological investigation and study findings of middle school students engaged in a unique Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) model named here as Student Driven Inquiry (SDI). (More). View via Publisher. Cite. Save. The lived experience of middle school students engaged in student-driven inquiry: A phenomenological study. Shelly Buchanan. Alejandra Dubcovsky offers a nuanced interpretation of the ways in which early Americans communicated. She is a master of the primary source evidence and employs her keen analytic abilities to reveal not only that knowledge was power in this early modern world but how it circulated and whom it benefited. A groundbreaking work. Peter C. Mancall, University of Southern California. Dubcovsky's wonderful first book puts information networks at the center of early Southern history. The result is a persuasive, far-reaching, and utterly absorbing reinterpretation of the region's development and it