Why do cats meow?

Meow! Meow! Why do cats meow?



Why?

1. **Kittens mew to call their mom.**
   Mew, mew! That means, I'm cold! I'm hungry! Come here, Mom! And their mom comes back. So mewing works!
2. **Grown-up cats talk with bodies and smells.**
   When kittens grow up, they mostly stop meowing at other cats. A tail held straight up means, hi, I'm friendly!
3. **Meows are for people.**
   People don't talk with tails and smells. We listen with our ears! Scientists think that's why cats keep meowing to us, like kittens meowing to their mom.

Try it! Guess the meow

You need: a cat you know

1. Next time a cat meows at you, look at where it is.
2. By the food bowl? By the door?
3. Then guess what it's saying!

What happened? Each cat learns which meows work on its people.

Video + more questions:
whywhywhykids.com/meow

scan with a grown-up