The cats and dogs are about to be released from their pens!
Can you set them up so that they can live in harmony?

Your goal is to create initial communities of cats and dogs that will survive, thrive and mingle.

Use the “New” button to create new communities. Click on a hexagon on the left side of the fence to add a cat or kitten; click on a hexagon on the right side of the fence to add a dog or puppy. Your starting communities can have up to 50 dogs and 50 cats. The “Add random cats” button will complete a community of 50 cats; the “Add random dogs” button will complete a community of 50 dogs.

Once your communities are complete, click on the “Done” button. Then use the “Play” button to start the generations of your communities.

The rules of this game are a modified version of Conway's Game of Life:

1. Any Cat or Dog with fewer than two neighbors leaves.
2. Any Cat or Dog with two or three neighbors stays on for the next generation.
3. Any Cat or Dog with more than three neighbors leaves.
4. A Kitten arrives on any empty patch with exactly three neighbors - two of them Cats.
5. A Puppy arrives on any empty patch with exactly three neighbors - two of them Dogs.

This application program will allow you to watch initial communities of Cats and Dogs move from generation to generation on a finite grid of hexagons until the Cats and Dogs all leave or it reaches a stable pattern.

The goal is to have a stable pattern with at least one Cat and one Dog sitting next to each other! Your score will be calculated by counting the number of cats with a dog as a neighbor and the number of dogs with a cat as a neighbor.

Good luck - don't get scratched or bitten!