

Harriet/Sonoma Humane Society September 2017 eAnimail

Not only was Harriet the smallest kitten Dr. Reidenbach and her team had ever performed surgery on, it was the riskiest anesthesia they'd ever attempted due to her tiny size. In fact, their reference charts didn't include dosage recommendations for an animal this small. But, with cool heads and skilled hands, they acted quickly.



"Anna, the nurse who performed Harriet's anesthesia was a rock star," Dr. Reidenbach said. "She performed stellar anesthesia under extreme circumstances." Anna used to work for a pet rat rescue in San Francisco and helped with a lot of surgeries. When our team didn't have equipment small enough for Harriet, Anna made it! "Since a newborn kitten is roughly the same size as a rat" Anna says, "I made a 'rat style' anesthesia mask out of a 20ML syringe case, a surgery glove and surgical tape."



Our team's ingenuity paid off and Harriet "woke up from surgery acting like nothing ever happened." Anna shares "she's a fighter. She was septic from infection and super sick, but she kept on purring, no matter what."

Missing a leg, but gaining a second chance for a long, full life ahead, Harriet's purr is going strong. She's growing and thriving in a loving foster-to-adopt home and enjoying life as the playful, active kitten she was meant to be.

For someone so tiny, Harriet embodies an enormous philosophy: No effort is too great when a life is at stake. We are so grateful to be a part of a community who shares our belief that animals are worth it!

Your donations to our [Angel's Fund](#) goes directly to helping our medical team save precious lives. YOU make second chances for animals like Harriet possible.