

Homemade Enrichment Ideas

The Goldilocks Zone: Not too Hard, but not too Easy Think of foraging like grade school. Different dogs have different levels of skill, experience, and motivation. Some dogs may have kindergarten level skills and others grade 12. It's important to determine your dog's skill level and provide them with the right kind of foraging opportunities.

Grass: Take your dogs kibble and toss it in the grass! This is one of the easiest ways to provide foraging enrichment for your dog that will keep them busy for a long time.

Destructibles

Paper Towel Roll

1. Fill with food. Pinch ends – Kindergarten Level
2. Fill with food. Pinch and fold ends.
3. Fill with food. Twist and tie off ends with twine. Punch a few holes in the tube.
4. Fill with food. Twist and tie. Punch two holes.
5. Fill with food. Twist and Tie. No holes.
6. Fill with food and stuff with newspaper. Twist and tie. No holes. Hidden around the house – Grade 12 Level

Cereal Box

1. Cut off one surface of the box. For a very easy toy, choose the front or back of the box. For a harder one, opt for one side or the other. For the biggest challenge, cut the top or bottom. Put food in cardboard awkwardly shaped bowl.
2. Cut half of one surface. "Bowl" is half covered!
3. Food in intact cardboard box with lid open.

4. Food in intact cardboard box. Close lid.
5. Cardboard box in cardboard box. Close lids. Food in both boxes.
6. Increasing layers of Russian nesting doll cardboard boxes. Food in each layer.
7. Russian nesting doll layers of cardboard boxes. Food only in some layers

Plastic Bottles

1. Cleaned and Dried. Lid off. Punch or burn several holes in it.
2. Cleaned and Dried. Lid off. Fewer holes.
3. Cleaned and Dried. Lid off. Two holes.
4. Cleaned and Dried. Lid off. No holes.
5. Cleaned and Dried. Lid on. Must be destroyed to yield its riches.
6. Cleaned and Dried.
7. Attached to wooden down set on frame. Must be flipped or destroyed. This will tell you a lot about your dog's play style!

Non Destructibles

Cupcake Pan

1. Food in cupcake pan. Essentially 12 minsture bowls instead of one big one.
2. Kibble mixed with smeary food (eg. Canned foodm canned pumpkin, yogurt etc.)
3. Kibble and wet food frozen
4. Kibble and wet food frozen. Balls or other objects placed in each hole.
5. Kibble and wet food. Balls or other objects frozen into place.
6. Kibble and wet food. Frozen balls. Wrapped in paper or placed In box.

Cookie Sheets

1. Kibble on the cookie sheet. A really shallow flat bowl!
2. Kibble mixed with smeary food on sheet.
3. Kibble and wet food frozen.
4. Kibble and wet food frozen on a few sheets, then stacked.
5. Kibble and wet food stacks frozen together.
6. Kibble and wet food frozen stacks wrapped in paper or placed in box.

Empty Peanut Butter Jar

1. PB jar with no lid.
2. PB jar with lid and several punched or burned holes.
3. PB jar with lid and a few holes.
4. PB jar with lid and only two holes (never do just one hole, to prevent creating a suction that could pull your dog's tongue into the hole and cause permanent damage!).
5. PB jar with two holes and gilled with toilet paper rolls.
6. PB jar with two holes and filled with toilet paper rolls and padded up paper towels.

PVC Pipe Food Bomb

1. PVC with a bunch of holes drilled in it and only one end capped.
2. PVC with a bunch of holes drilled in it and both ends capped.
3. PVC with two holes and both ends capped.
4. PVC two holes, both ends capped, and stuffed with other inedible objects that are too large to fit through the holes.
5. PVC stuffed with objects, two large holes, ends capped and suspended by a rope a foot or so above the floor.
6. Suspended just above the height of the dogs head.

Easter Egg Hunt

1. Plastic easter eggs stuffed with food. You may first have to start with them open.
2. Then only partially closed.
3. Then fully closed.
4. Then fully closed and scattered around one room.
5. Then scattered around multiple rooms.
6. Then hidden around multiple rooms.

