

## Make enrichment toys

We like to provide our cats with mental stimulation by making them enrichment toys. You could try making a toilet roll pyramid which is for putting dry cat food in the cardboard tubes. The cats will then have fun trying to retrieve these. Cardboard boxes and yoghurt pots are also good enrichment toys, which can be used to feed the cat part of its daily biscuit allowance. See our instructions below on how you can make these easy toys.

For more information on how your company can work with Cats Protection and to share any ideas that you may have, please contact our Corporate Partnerships team on 01825 741 351 or by emailing [partnerships@cats.org.uk](mailto:partnerships@cats.org.uk)

## Enrichment toy making

### The toilet roll pyramid – recipe card

#### How does this enrichment meet cats' needs?

- ❖ Hunting is an innate behaviour in all cats, they are born with the instinct to hunt and this will be an instinct that continues throughout their life
- ❖ Initially, hunting will not be high on a newly admitted cat's list of priorities, instead it will want to hide until it feels the new environment is safe and predictable – different cats will adapt at different rates
- ❖ Each cat needs to be given the chance to exhibit hunting behaviour once they have settled in
- ❖ By providing feeding enrichment toys and toys that move, we can help manage the frustration associated with being in a pen

**Toys need to be rotated around for each cat regularly to maintain novelty.**

**All feeding enrichment toys need to be shown to the cat to avoid frustration and the food must be taken out of the cat's daily amount of weighed biscuits to avoid obesity.**

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy

TIME TO MAKE: 15-20 minutes

EQUIPMENT: You will need 21 toilet roll cardboard tubes, a piece of cardboard for the base approximately 45cm x 35cm, scissors, sellotape:



#### INSTRUCTIONS:

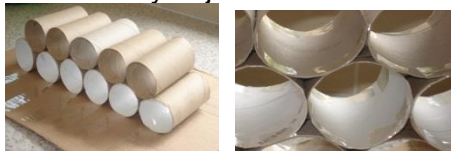
Using tape, attach one toilet roll tube to the base towards one end.



Repeat five times so that there is a row of six tubes side-by-side. Tape the sides that lie adjacent to each other, for extra stability.



Take a further five rolls and place them on top to make a second row in a brick-like pattern. Again, tape these to any adjacent rolls.



Continue to tape rows of tubes in a descending numbers, to make a pyramid shape.



Let the cat enjoy!

## Cardboard box and yoghurt pots

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- ❖ Each cat needs to be given the chance to exhibit hunting behaviour once they have settled in
- ❖ By providing feeding enrichment toys and toys that move, we can help manage the frustration associated with being in a pen

**Toys need to be rotated around for each cat regularly to maintain novelty. All feeding enrichment toys need to be shown to the cat to avoid frustration and the food must be taken out of the cat's daily amount of weighed biscuits to avoid obesity.**

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Easy

TIME TO MAKE: 10-15 minutes

EQUIPMENT: You will need an empty Felix 12-pouch cardboard box, two clean yoghurt pots of different depths/width, scissors, pencil:



### INSTRUCTIONS:

Place yoghurt pots on the top surface of the Felix box and draw around their circumference with a pencil:



Cut out the shapes made by the pencil and insert the yoghurt pots into the gaps – you may need to make the holes slightly larger, depending on the type of yoghurt pot:



This can then be used to feed the cat part of its daily biscuit allowance – start by placing a few biscuits into the pots. Depending on the depth of the yoghurt pots, the cat may use its paw to retrieve the biscuits:



Once the cat has mastered this, open the box's flap and place some biscuits inside:



Once the cat has mastered this, close the flap so that the cat has to work a little harder to “hunt” the biscuits.



Let the cat enjoy!

