

Cardboard box and yoghurt pots

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: 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 top surface of 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!

