

Egg boxes for feeding enrichment

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.

1. Place a biscuit in each cup and leave the egg box open:



2. Once the cat has mastered this, repeat but close the lid as loosely as possible:



3. Once the cat has mastered this, repeat but close the lid a little more:



4. Once the cat has mastered this, repeat but close the lid fully:



5. Once the cat has mastered this, open the box again but this time cover a biscuit loosely with a small piece of newspaper. Then repeat using the lid as in steps 2, 3 and 4:



Once the cat has mastered this, scrunch the newspaper and place over biscuit. Gradually increase the number of newspaper-covered biscuits until all cups are covered. Then repeat using the lid as in steps 2, 3 and 4:



Once the cat has mastered this, wrap a biscuit in a scrunch-ed-up piece of newspaper and place back in the cup, leaving the other cups with an exposed biscuit. Gradually increase the number of biscuit-filled scrunch-ed-up newspaper until all cups contain one. Then repeat using the lid as in steps 2, 3 and 4:



Let the cat enjoy!

