

Foraging Toys in Five Minutes

By Kit Manchester, Birds Just Wanna Have Fun

FORAGING TOYS ARE FUN FOR BIRDS: They spend more times searching and working for food, just as they would in the wild. In five minutes a day, your birds can have a wide variety of interesting foraging toys. Provide several kinds of toys each day.

COVER: Cover the food dish with a piece of paper that the bird has to move to get to their food. At first, place the paper on top of the dish so it can be easily knocked off. Later, you can fasten the paper with masking tape.

Suggested materials are plain paper, paper towels, napkins, card stock, cardboard, wood, ect..



WRAP: Place the food in a paper cup or another safe, destructible container. Close the top by twisting or crushing the container. Use it as 1) a foot toy. (more difficult), 2) hang on a skewer, or 3) punch a hole on the paper and hang it. Wraps can be hidden around the cage and placed away from any food dishes.



Suggested materials are paper cups, paper cones, coffee filters (unbleached), paper cup cake liners (not aluminum foil), dried corn husks (sold in grocery stores for making tamales), and other similar items.

BURY: Place a small amount of food in the dish and cover it with polished stones, beads, or shredded paper. This works best with dry items – pellets, nuts, small toys. If you bury wet food, use washable items to cover.



Suggested materials are polished stones (at a craft store), wood beads, plastic beads, small chunks of wood or wood blocks, etc. Be sure that the materials are not small enough for your bird to accidentally consume.

TUBE: Stuff the food or treats in a tube. Use paper tubes or refillable foraging tubes (pvc pipe).

Suggested materials are paper or card stock, toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls.



Professionally Designed Foraging and Enrichment Toys
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