



24hr ENRICHMENT CARE IDEAS

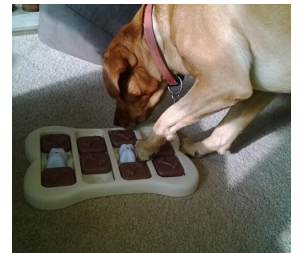
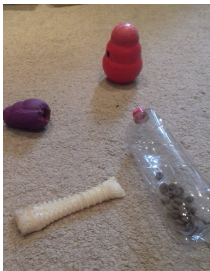


Nowadays we have such a vast selection of breed "types" that live in our homes. Many originally bred to do many amazing jobs using their phenomenal senses. This means we have a lot of dogs in domestic homes with specific urges & outlet needs that are often left "unemployed" in our homes.. This does not mean to say you need to get your dogs working for real but it does mean they need more than just the typical pet shop toy "norm" in means of enriching their lives and outlets for mental energy. Science proves that if a puppy has a well-enriched puppy hood they are more likely to become better problem solvers in adulthood and cope well with new, novel and arousing situations by the enriching experiences reducing their anxiety & fear. It also proves that a well-enriched dog is more content and calms easier, with fewer behavioural issues developing from frustration/ hyper arousal.

Here are some ideas to try for your dog:

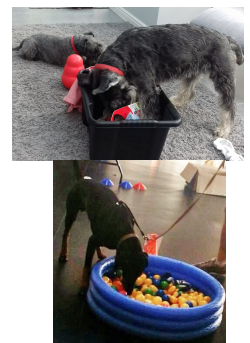
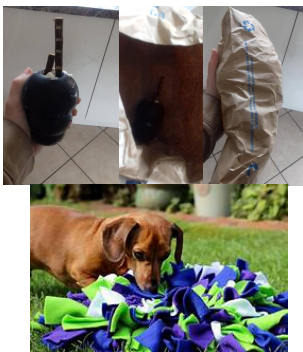
Interactive toys

Toys which can be played independently without you holding them: Kong classic, Kong wobbler, Kong gyro, Zogoflex, K9 connectable, maze balls, Nina Ottoson puzzle toys, homemade toys using plastic bottles/ old socks or pillowcases. Follow beyond the bowl canine enrichment Facebook group for more ideas in the photos. Put toys on rotation through the day and wash them weekly to keep engagement with them. Keep toys for training away from day to day play toys.



Increase foraging opportunities

Scatter feeding their daily food into different methods "DITCH THE BOWL". Destruction boxes (plastic storage box fill items you feel are safe for your dog that they will not ingest, e.g various cardboard boxes/tubes, screwed up paper, old socks, old sheets, carpet cut off, kongs, plastic bottles) & scatter/ hide food & let them destroy & make a mess. Simply put it all back in the box, pop the lid on and put away. The box should take a dog at least 15-20mins to complete. Invest in snuffle mats or snuffle balls, spiral puzzle bowls, paddling pools/ sandpits, kong ballistic & sticky bone/ lick mats! Anything that can provide some mental activity to complete.



Shake up those walks!

Get your dogs brain working on those walks. Your dog may find training more than "school" and enjoy it as a mentally enriching activity. No matter how good they get at exercises always throw them in randomly through your walk. Get more engaged with your dog, scatter feed on the walk in the grass and hide bits in trees or bushes for them to seek out and let them explore with YOU. Exchange balls, frisbees and tug toys in return for them doing a training exercise. Make the walk more enriching and spice it up with fun that involves you.



Spice up your dogs day!
Gemma