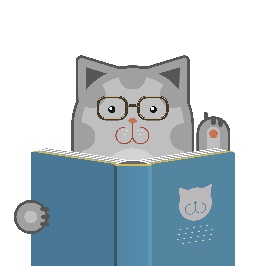
**HAWS Weekly Cat Enrichment**

Monday:

**Cat Tales: Reading to our Feline Friends**

Select a book from our library of cat stories, sit back and soothe our cats with a story.

Tuesday:

**Spray Feliway: on blankets of cats who appear to be a little stressed or fearful (Just a squirt or two)**

(Feliway is a product that comforts and reassures cats and kittens and reduces signs of stress. It works by emulating the natural pheromones released by a mother cat to calm her kittens).

Wednesday:

**Sound Machine**

Using a “white noise” machine can cancel out loud shelter noises or disturbances, providing cats with their favorite outdoor noises.

Thursday:

**Sprinkle catnip on cat blankets (Not in Colony Rooms or directly in casas)**

**Why catnip?**  When ingested, the mellowing effect of catnip can help to reduce stress, anxiety, and even depression.

(If you sprinkle in kitten cage it won’t hurt them. It’s just that kittens do not react to catnip until around six (6) months of age.)

Friday:

**Hunting Day…Provide cats with treats to forage.**

Wrap treats in small pieces of paper bag or hide treats under blankets in kennels so cats can hunt for their food. Hunting is a natural instinct in cats.

Other Enrichment Ideas:

* **Spray Feliway Spray or catnip mist on scent knots. (Feliway can help cats relax and Catnip can bring fun and excitement)**
* **Switch out cat toys: Give them a new toy to play with from our New Cat Toy Bin. (variety is the spice of life)**
* **Licky Mats: Spread lickable treats on rubber mats and place in kennel or colony room. (Be sure to collect and place in cat kitchen when finished)**
* **Scented pill bottle: Place in kennels or colony room (they have small animal scents in them for the cats to enjoy)**
* **Egg Carton Busy Box… Take egg carton and add:**
* **treats in some holes and cover with a toy so cat has to hunt for it.**
* **Spread a lickable treat in a hole**

**Place in colony rooms for cats to enjoy!**

* **Treat Surprises: Place treats in the following:**
* **Cat Kongs**
* **Plastic Easter Eggs**
* **Other treat dispensers or treat puzzles**
* **Toilet paper rolls**
* **Blow catnip bubbles in Colony Rooms so cats can watch them. (Please do not blow directly at cats as it might frighten them)**
* **Hang Nail Brushes: These small brushes can be attached to the kennels and give the cats something to rub on. Cats enjoy rubbing on things and this can even enhance their daily grooming.**
* **Turn on Cat Videos and set on counter or place in colony rooms for cats to watch. (Ask Kennel Staff for tablet to use…but please return it before you leave) This gives cats something to watch and fight boredom.**
* **Place an interactive toy in Colony Rooms for cats to watch and get their attention.**
* **Place a paper grocery bag in one of the colony rooms and watch the cats play hide and seek.**
* **Dowels with Pompoms: Try using to slowly introduce yourself to a shy or fearful cat or kitten. Begin by showing it to the cat/kitten and see if they reach out to touch it. Next, rub on paw and then maybe cheek to see if the cat enjoys the touch. Hopefully, this will ensure the feline that they can trust you. Eventually, move your hand up the dowel and the hope is that eventually, with dowel in hand you can rub the cat with your finger. This can be a slow, but worthwhile process. Patience is very important.**
* **Laser Pointers: Many cats enjoy laser pointers, and they engage a cat’s natural prey drive. They can also help to exercise cats who have a weight problem. Be sure to allow the cat to “catch” the laser here and there…this builds confidence that they can “win” and will keep them interested each time they play. (A laser should never be used to frustrate or stress a cat. And remember to never point the laser directly into a cat’s eyes).**

A black and pink paw print with a heart

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**All supplies you will need can be found in the Cat Laundry Room either on the shelves or in the cabinet labeled “Cat Enrichment.”**