

humane
society
of charlotte



Student Activity Booklet

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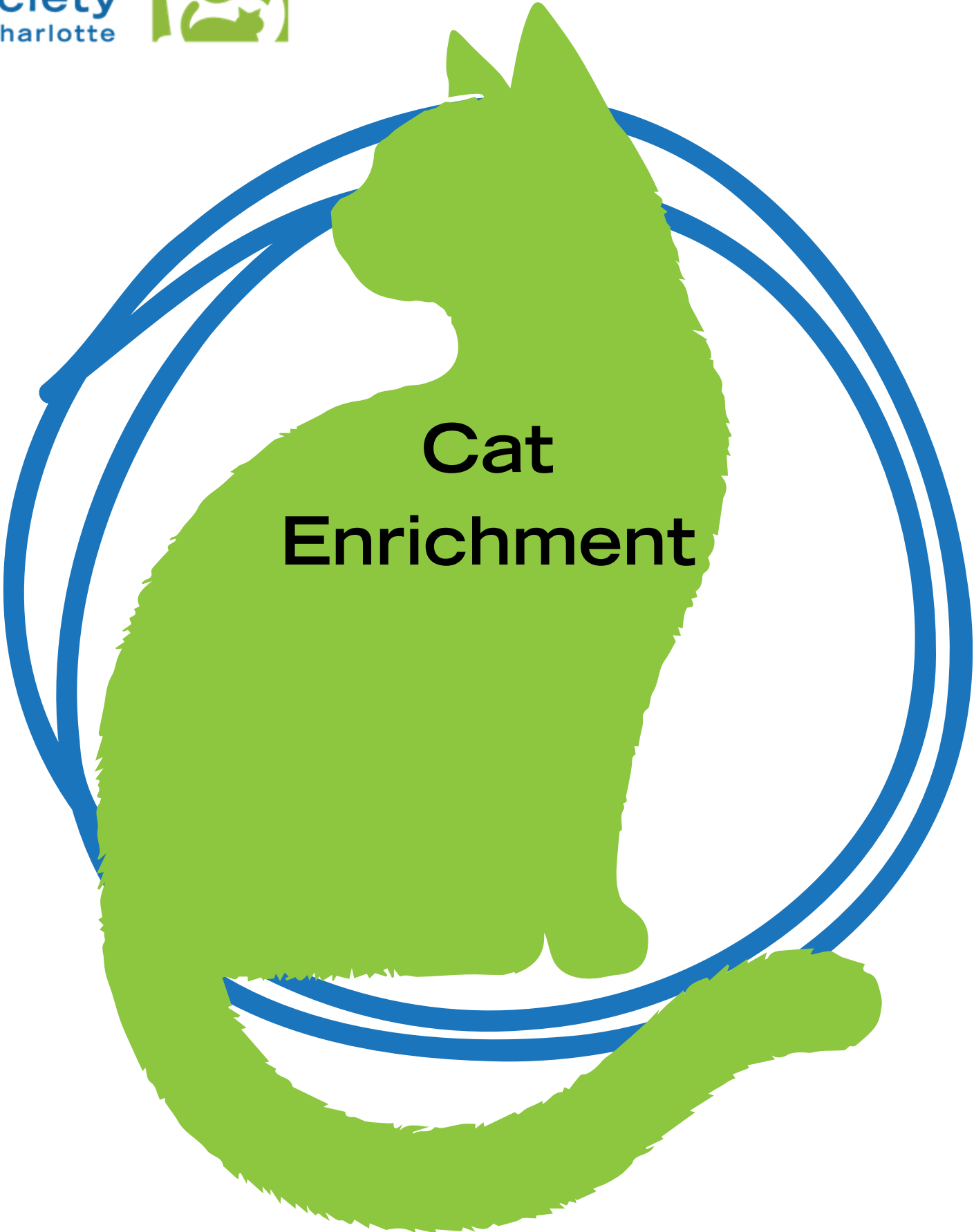
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**Cat
Enrichment**



Fish Toy

Play is an important part of keeping kittens and cats healthy and happy. The dried herbs also provide a different smell cats enjoy! Provide some enrichment with these fish toys.

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

5 toys in 1 hour

SUPPLIES:

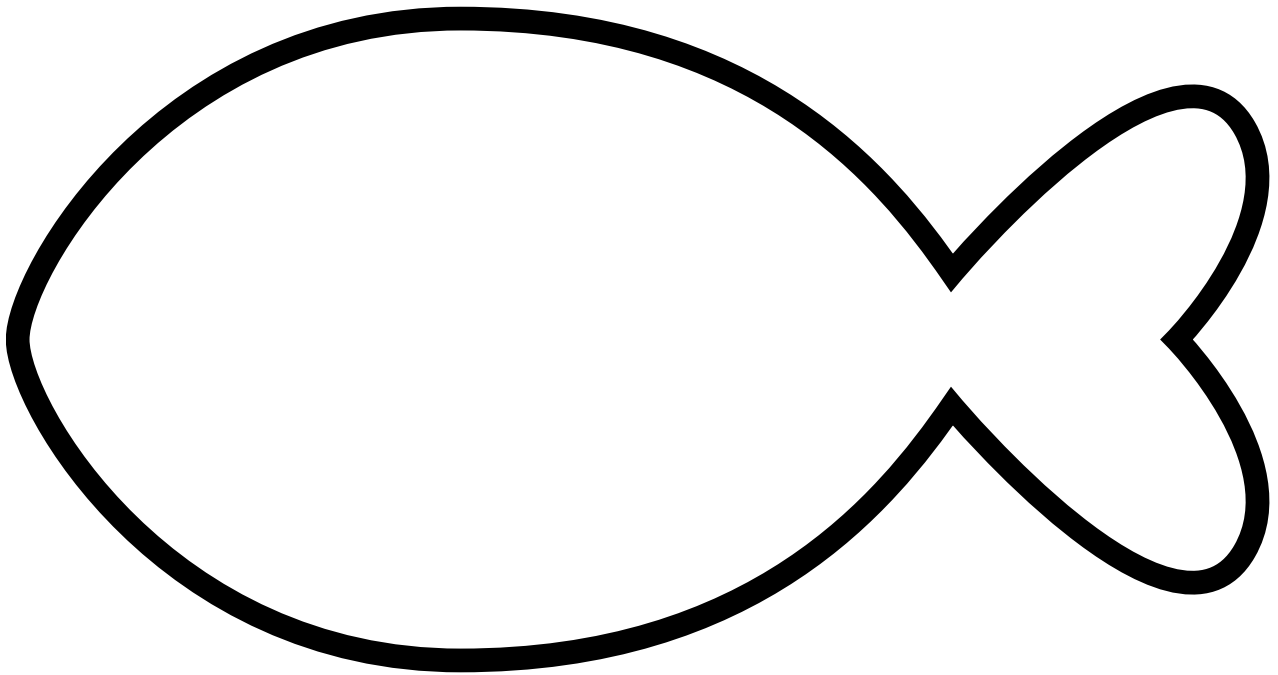
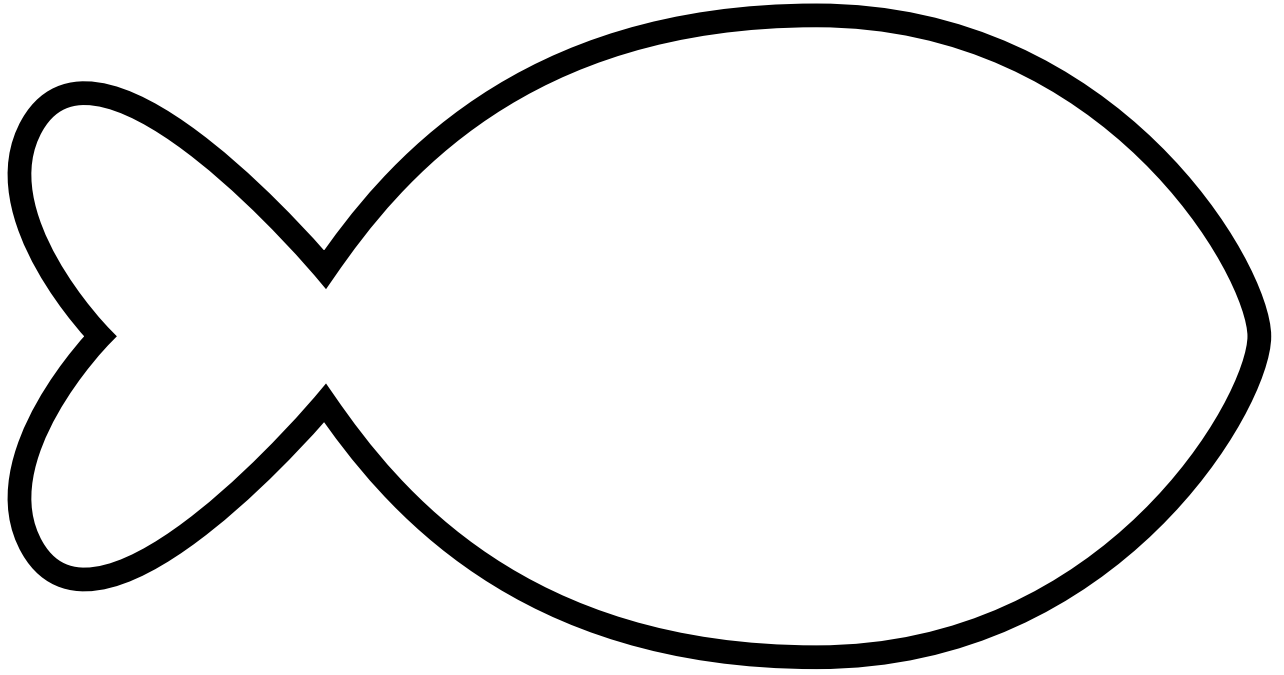
- Fish Template
- Fabric
- Pins
- Pinking shears
- Cotton batting or wool scraps
- Dried rosemary, thyme or basil
- Needle and thread

DIRECTIONS:

- Trace and cut out the fish template (you may use ours below or create your own in a similar size) onto two pieces of fabric.
- Pin sides together, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ th seam allowance. Sew seam and leave 1" opening for filling.
- Trim seams with pinking shears.
- Stuff with cotton batting or wool scraps until firm.
- Add 1-2 tablespoons of dried rosemary, thyme, or basil.
- Stitch to close

[Want a nicer-looking fish with hidden seams?](#) Pin right sides facing each other, leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ th seam allowance. Sew seam and leave 1.5" opening for filling. Turn right side out and press seams flat. Stuff and stitch to close.

Fish Template



Sock Cat Toy

New toys offer variety for our cats and kittens. They encourage play, decrease boredom, and introduce new stimulating smells into their day! Help our cats and kittens stay healthy and happy by using something we all have laying around: too-small or lonely socks!

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

15 toys in 1 hour

SUPPLIES:

- Small sock
- Cotton batting or fabric scraps
- Dried rosemary, thyme, or basil (optional)
- Fabric markers (optional)
- Needle and thread (optional)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Put 1-2 tablespoons dried herbs in a baby or child's sock (optional). Fill the rest with cotton batting or fabric scraps
2. Tie off the sock at the end
3. Draw a face or decorate if desired!

[Like to sew?](#) Use a needle and thread to stitch the end of the sock instead of tying it off.

Cat Condo

Cat condos help provide our cats with a safe space to hide or have some privacy for sleep. It helps ease their anxiety and fear in a stressful environment with other cats and people. Make our cats a little safe space with a cat condo! Feel free to add some fun aspects so they can scratch and play as well, but, please, no string and limit tape use as those are a safety hazard!

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

2 condos in 1 hour

SUPPLIES:

- Cardboard box (sturdy and clean)
- Box cutter/utility knife
- Hot glue gun/gummed paper tape
- Decorating items (pipe cleaners, ribbons, etc. Please no feathers)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Seal the cardboard box on all sides.
2. With adult help and supervision, cut out a door large enough for a cat. Add windows as desired.
3. Decorate the box as desired, adding in fun elements for cats. Don't be afraid to get creative!

[Want to level up your cat condo for double hours?](#)

Check out Martha Stewart's directions on [How to Make a Cardboard Playhouse](#)

Cardboard Cat Scratcher

Cats love to scratch and often don't have access to scratching options while awaiting their furever homes. Help give them enrichment and the ability to do what is natural to them by creating cat scratchers with cardboard that would otherwise be thrown out!

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

1 scratcher in 1 hour

SUPPLIES:

- Cardboard box
- Box cutter/utility knife
- Hot glue gun

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut cardboard into pieces that are roughly the same length (1 foot) and width (1-2 inches)
2. Place the pieces side by side, hot gluing them together as you go (corrugated edge up)
3. Continue until you have a rectangular scratcher about 6 inches long.

To make a circular cat scratcher, follow the directions found [here](#).

To make a cat scratching post out of a traffic cone, follow the directions found [here](#).

Cat Wand

Cats love to chase toys, and potential adopters love to see them chase toys. Help contribute to the cats' enrichment and give adopters a fun tool to use to interact with the cats!

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

5 wands in 1 hour

SUPPLIES:

- Wooden dowel rod
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun
- Fabric pieces (fleece, ribbon, clean shoelaces)
- Optional: non-toxic markers

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut strips of fabric, ribbon, etc. to hang from your wand.
Lengths can vary.
2. Tie and glue all strips together at one end.
3. Attach to a dowel rod by wrapping a strip of duct tape around your strips of material and your dowel rod (for a fun dowel rod, decorate with non-toxic markers).

Fabric Braid Toy

Enrichment comes in many forms. With this item you're giving our cats the chance to leap, pounce, and chase toys with potential adopters as they wait to find their furever home!

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

15 toys in 1 hour

SUPPLIES:

- Fleece, cotton strips, or other sturdy but flexible fabric

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut fabric into approximately 2-inch-wide strips. Each strip should be at least 1 foot long
2. Take 3 strips of fabric and use a regular plait braid to braid all 3 strips together, trying it off in a knot at both ends.



Cat Puzzle Feeder

A puzzle is a great way to provide enrichment for animals, and nothing is more motivating than using food as a reward for the puzzle. Help us keep our cats' brains active by creating a puzzle feeder!

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

2 boxes in 1 hour

SUPPLIES:

- Shoe box
- Toilet paper rolls
- Hot glue gun
- Scissors



DIRECTIONS:

1. Place the tubes in the box, gluing each one in place as you go. The tubes should be pressed against each other and should fill the box.

Please do not put any food inside the box. Shelter staff will do that prior to giving it to the cats. To help out, you may bring in an unopened bag of cat treats to be used with it later!

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**Dog
Enrichment**

Snuffle Mat

Mental stimulation and snacks? What more can a dog ask for!

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

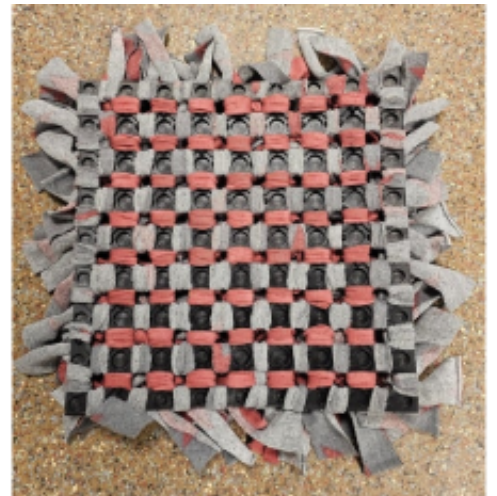
1 mat in 2 hours

SUPPLIES:

- A rubber mat with holes in it cut to no larger than 1.5' by 1.5'
- Sharp scissors
- Fleece fabric (we recommend using at least two different colors)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut the fleece into 7" strips. You'll need at least twice as many strips as there are holes in the mat.
2. Choose one color of fleece strips and double knot the strips into each hole in the mat or basted until all holes have been filled.
3. Repeat step 2 with another color of fabric, ensuring that the fabric is dense enough throughout to hide treats. Depending on the kind of mat, you may need to repeat step 2 again with different fabric.





**General
Enrichment
and
Donations**

No Sew Blankets

Pet blankets provide a comfort to our animals while they await their furever home. Help them have a cozy and comfortable stay by making blankets for them!

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

3 blankets in 1 hour

SUPPLIES:

- Fleece fabric
- Fabric scissors

DIRECTIONS:

1. Determine the size of bed you wish to make. (3'x2' is a good size for a kitten, but larger would be better for a cat, or small or large dog). Cut two pieces of fabric the same size, making sure to cut them about five inches bigger than you want the bed to turn out.
2. Place the two pieces of fabric together. Going around the edges, cut strips about 5" long and 1" apart.
3. Once both pieces of fabric have strips on all sides, tie pieces together by knotting a strip on the top piece to a strip on the bottom piece. Tie the pieces together on all sides, making sure they are tied tightly

Donation Drives & Fundraisers

Here are some ways you can raise money or gather donations:

1. Host a lemonade stand.
2. Have a bake sale.
3. Ask friends/family members/neighbors
4. Have a yard sale.
5. Put a donation bin at a local business.
6. Make crafts/DIY items to sell.
7. Do chores or yard work in exchange for money/donation items.
8. Ask a local business (with a big parking lot) if you can host a car wash outside to raise money.
9. Ask for donations for HSC for your birthday, Christmas, etc. instead of gifts for yourself.
10. Write donation request letters to people in the community.

*Please note that every 10 donated items equates to 1 hour of service.

Our Wishlist

We need all sorts of important materials in order to carry out our mission and help the people and animals of our community. Below are a few of our different wishlists:



[Shelter Specific Amazon Wishlist](#)

[Foster-Specific Amazon Wishlist](#)



[Chewy Wishlist](#)

We are also regularly in need of:

- Dry dog/cat kibble (must be in original packaging)
- Cat Litter
- Paper towels
- Canned cat food
- Liquid Bleach
- Dishwasher detergent
- Martingale style dog collars
- Nitrile exam gloves
- Dog and cat toys – New/Gently used
- Dog and cat treats
- Creamy peanut butter – please read the label as we cannot accept peanut butter with Xylitol
- Tall or 55-gallon trash bags
- New and gently used pet crates and carriers
- Waterproof pet blanket
- Small towels (hand towel, wash cloths)
- Small blankets (no larger than twin size, fleece preferred)
- Flat bed sheets (not fitted)
- Puppy pee pads
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Pet Beds
- Heartworm/flea and tick prevention (as long as they are not expired)
- Kong/indestructible toys

View drop off directions on the next page for information on what to do when you have completed your donation drive or fundraiser.

How to Drop Off Donations

Schedule Your Drop-Off

To ensure we have enough hands to collect and sort donations, we kindly ask that drop-offs be scheduled in advance.

Email education@humanecharlotte.org to schedule a specific drop-off date and time.

Count and Sort Your Items

Before your drop-off, please count and document the number of items in your donation using the following units:

Canned food: number of cans

Dry food: pounds (lbs)

Treats: number of packs

Litter: pounds (lbs)

Liquid cleaning supplies: ounces (oz)

For items in multi-packs (like paper towels or trash bags), please count the individual items in the package. For all other items, list the number of each individual item.

Donation Drop-Off

At your scheduled time, pull into the semi-circle in front of the Education Center, next to the Adoptions Center. A member of the Education Team will meet you there to collect the donation.