

Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society



Craft Activity Book

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Are you looking for ways to help the homeless pets at the Gloucester-Mathews Humane Society, but are struggling with finding the time or are too young for our Volunteer Program?

The crafts and ideas in this booklet are a great way to give back to shelter pets in a way that enriches their lives while they are waiting for their forever home!

The animals and the staff will thank you for all of your hard work and you can be assured that your gift will brighten the day of a few pets!

NOTE: If you require verification of the hours spent crafting, baking, or running a food drive for a school or community group, you must contact the GMHS Community Programs Manager (804-693-5520, ext 320) to make an appointment to drop off your goods and receive a signed letter stating hours spent.

*Thank
You*

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Looking for a quick pet-friendly project for a child? This simple catnip toy takes just minutes to make, while providing fun for kids and cats alike.

Instructions:

Step 1: Role an 8 ½" x 11" piece of paper into a cone for a funnel; securing with tape.

Step 2: Insert funnel into sock, and fill halfway with catnip

Step 3: Knot sock just above filling

Step 4: Cut out eyes and a mouth from a piece of felt; attach to sock with non-toxic fabric glue.





Materials

- Pencil
- Paper
- Fabric
- Pins
- Pinking Shears
- Cotton batting or wool scraps
- Catnip
- Needle & Thread
- Upholstery needle and thin sturdy twine, for hanging

Instructions

Step 1: Draw and cut out fish shape. Trace the fish shape onto two layers of fabric. Cut out shapes.

Step 2: Pin right sides together leaving 1/4-inch seam allowance. Sew seam and leave 1 ½ inch opening for filling.

Step 3: Trim seams with pinking shears

Step 4: Turn right side out. Press seams flat

Step 5: Stuff with cotton batting or wool scraps until firm. Shape a piece of paper into a funnel, and use it to add 1-2 tablespoons of dried catnip or to fill whole toy with catnip.

Step 6: Hand-stitch opening closed

Step 7: If desired, make fishing line – Thread an upholstery needle with 30 inches of thin sturdy twine, and sew through the seam of the fish’s mouth. Tie knot to secure.



Materials:

- Catnip Rat Template (<http://www.marthastewart.com/272149/catnip-rat>)
- Felt
- Stuffing
- Rope
- Catnip
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun and hot glue sticks
- Extra felt (optional for eyes)

Instructions:

Step 1: Follow link in materials to access template. Using the 7 ½-inch template, trace and cut out the bottom and side pieces of felt, using the circles for ears.

Step 2: Glue the top edges of the side pieces to each other. Glue the bottom piece of felt to the bottom of the side pieces. Be sure to leave an opening in the back to insert stuffing.

Step 3: For your stuffing, use cotton batting and catnip. Cut a piece of rope for the rat's tail and stuff in the back of the rat. Seal with glue, and glue on the ears. To add eyes, use a marker or felt.



Materials

- Pencil
- Paper
- Scissors
- Wool Felt
- Iron
- Jingle Bells
- Satin Cord

Instructions

Step 1: Download Template:

http://assets.marthastewart.com/d7/la_1207/la_1207_leaf.pdf

Step 2: Draw and cut out two different size feathers. Trace the feathers onto felt. Cut out one large and one small feather from two pieces of different colored medium-weight wool felt.

Step 3: With a hot iron, press a crease down the center of each feather.

Step 4: Add a jump ring to a jingle bell.

Step 5: Slip end of 1-yard length of satin cord through jump ring. At bell, tie stems of feathers to cord with a square knot. Knot both ends of cord to prevent fraying.



Materials

- Cardboard Scraps
- Scissors
- Twine (hair ties work well too!)
- Hole-punch

Instructions

Step 1: Cut cardboard into small pieces no larger than 2"x2"

Step 2: Hole punch the center of each piece of cardboard.

Step 3: Cut Twine into 4" strands.

Step 4: Stack 6-8 pieces of cardboard. Feed twine through center and tie off each end.

Step 5: Cut off any extra twine on each end.



Materials

- Corks
- Scissors
- Wavy ribbon
- Nontoxic Glue

Instructions

Step 1: Cut four to eight 4" strands of wavy ribbon

Step 2: Separate wavy ribbon into two groups and tie a knot at one end of each group.

Step 3: Glue knotted end of ribbon to each side of the cork.



Materials

- Shoe String
- Bell
- Wooden Beads
- Wooden Spools
- Plastic Buttons
- Etc.

Instructions

Step 1: You can make this what you want! Tie a knot in one end of the shoelace, leaving enough lace left over to tie to the top of the cage.

Step 2: String your beads, spools, buttons, and bell onto a shoelace.

Step 3: Tie off the other end to keep items from slipping off shoelace.



Materials

- Fleece
- Fabric Scissors
- Yard Stick

Instructions

Step 1: Using yard stick, cut three to six strips of fleece.

Step 2: Gather strips of fleece and tie large knot at one end.

Step 3: Separate fleece strips into three sections, then braid. Leave enough fleece at the other end to tie knot.

Step 4: Tie knot at end to secure.

Note: Fleece braids can vary in width and length. Fleece braids for dogs should be larger. Please keep the length under two feet.



Materials

- PVC Pipe with threaded ends (no longer than 1.5 feet)
- PVC Caps with threaded ends
- Drill

Instructions

Step 1: Using your hand drill, make miscellaneous holes along the sides of the PVC Pipes. Make sure holes are big enough for small dog treats to pass through.

Step 2: Twist caps onto both ends.



Materials

- Toilet Paper Rolls
- Hot Glue Gun
- Hot Glue Sticks
- Small Box (tissue boxes work well)
- Shredded Paper

Instructions

Option 1

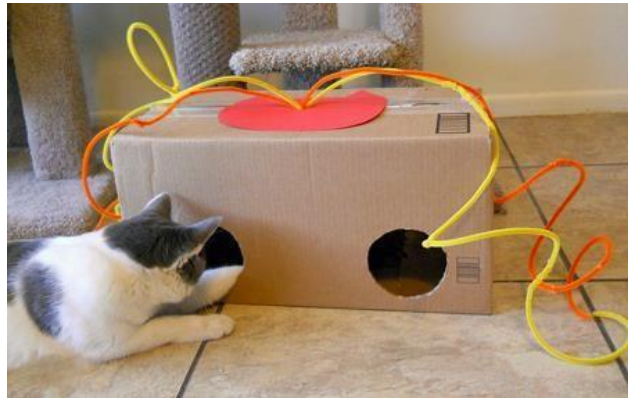
Step 1: Glue toilet paper rolls together in the form of a pyramid

Step 2: Hide cat treats, small toys, or even shredded paper sprinkled with Catnip

Option 2:

Step 1: Take a small box and glue ends of tubes to the inside of the box

Step 2: Hid cat treats, small toys, or even shredded paper with sprinkled Catnip.



Materials

- Recycled box (no larger than 24"x24")
- Tape
- X-ACTO or Utility Knife
- Pipe Cleaners (or other fun craft items)
- Hot Glue Gun
- Hot Glue Sticks

Instructions

Step 1: Cut out small opening all over box (small enough for the cat to not get stuck, but big enough so that kitty paws do not get stuck).

Step 2: Tape together all seams of the box.

Step 3: For extra fun add Pipe Cleaners or other fun items to the outside of the box. Decorate, decorate, decorate...the more "things" you attach...the more fun the cat will have!

Please call shelter to assess current needs are before making this project:
804-693-5520

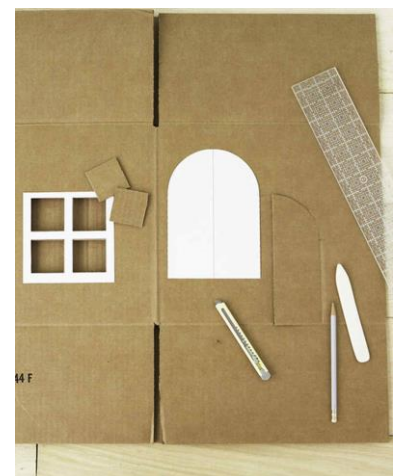


Materials

- Door & window templates (http://images.marthastewart.com/images/content/web/pdfs/2009Q1/pets_cathouse_window_door.pdf)
- 3 same-size sturdy cardboard boxes
- Pencil
- Bone folder tool
- Ruler
- Retractable razor blade or utility knife
- Self-healing mat
- Hot glue gun
- Hot glue sticks

Instructions

Step 1: Download and print door and window templates; cut out. Position door and window template on one box, as desired, using a ruler for placement. Trace templates onto box with a pencil. Slide a self-healing mat inside the box and position it behind the windows as you cut out the panes. Position the self-healing mat behind the door; cut the curved top edge, the flat bottom edge, and down the center. Fold open along straight sides. Repeat tracing and cutting on second box, using window template only.



Cardboard Cat House

(3 Cat Houses = 5 hrs.)

Step 2: Assemble bottom of the first box (the one with the door): Fold in two opposite flaps, generously coat them with hot glue, then fold the remaining two flaps over them. Hold flaps in place until the glue is set. On the open end of the box, cut the flap off of each long side. Cut off half of the flap from one short side, as pictured; fold it in. Secure flaps to side of box with a line of hot glue. Hold flaps in place until glue is set.

Step 3: Begin making the roof: On the top end of the second box, use a ruler and pencil to draw a line from the top center of one short-side flap to one bottom corner; draw a second line from the top center to the other bottom corner. Repeat on the opposite short-side flap. Cut off one long-side flap, as pictured; set aside. Cut along a penciled line to remove a triangle shape from one short-side flap, as pictured; score the second line. Repeat on second short-side flap, cutting along one line and scoring the other.

Step 4: Cut long-side flaps from the bottom of second box. Cut one short-side flap so that when the box is assembled and stacked on the bottom box, the holes will line up. Secure the flaps to the side of the box with a line of hot glue. Hold flaps in place until glue is set. Coat the top of the bottom box with a generous layer of hot glue. Position the bottom of the top box over it, and hold in place until the glue is set. Use one of the reserved short side flaps and coat one side of it with a generous layer of hot glue. Place it, glue-coated-side down, as pictured, on the "floor" of the top box for reinforcement.



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4

Step 5: Cut the roof piece (21 1/4-by-46 inches) from third box with a crease down its center when folded short-end to short-end. To attach roof, fold along the scored lines on the short-side flaps at the top of the house. Glue long flap to the folded triangles from the short sides. Generously coat the folded-in pieces with hot glue, and position the roof over them. Hold in place until glue is set. (Don't glue other side of the roof closed. Your cat will enjoy peeking out from under it.)



Materials

- Sturdy Shoebox
- Three or more plastic water or soda bottles (8-24 oz)
- X-ACTO or Utility Knife
- Duct Tape or Non-toxic Glue

Instructions

Step 1: Clean and sanitize bottles

Step 2 Cut the tops off the bottles, varying the height at which you make the cuts.

Step 3: Trace around one of the water bottles on the top of the box. Repeat this step on different locations along the box top, doing it once for each bottle.

Step 4: Cut holes in the box top. If you cut the hole slightly smaller than the border you traced, the narrow bands in the bottle will help hold it in place without tape or glue.

Please call shelter to assess current needs are before making this project:
804-693-5520



Materials

- Piece of wood 2.5'x2' (or smaller)
- Narrow Wooden Dowel
- Two pieces of wood 2'x6" (or smaller)
- Recycled medium to large water or soda bottles
- Drill
- Screws

Instructions:

Step 1: Measure, cut, and sand base, sides, and dowel. Note: Sizes can vary as long as they are the size above or smaller.

Step 2: cut out holes on each side of plastic bottles. Feed the dowel through all the holes in the plastic bottles.

Step 3: Mark where you would like the dowel to set in between the two side pieces. Once you have the dowel lined up with your marks, screw into place.

Step 4: Mark where you would like the sides to line up with the base. Once you have the sides lined up with your marks, screw into place.

Step 5: Fill recycled bottles with treats and have some fun!

Please call shelter to assess current needs are before making this project:
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Materials

- Sewing Machine
- Thread
- Scissors
- Fabric
- Ruler/Yard Stick
- Pins

Instructions

Step 1: Cut one piece of fabric 12 ½ x 20 inches. Finish the ends: turn one of the short ends in ¼ inch, and stitch. Turn the other end under 1” and stitch close to the cut edge. Topstitch ¼ inch inside of first stitching.

Step 2: With right side in, fold the end with the wider, topstitched hem up 5 ¾ inches. Fold the end with the narrow hem down 4 ¾ inches. The edges will overlap in unequal thirds.

Step 3: Stich the sides, clip the corners, and turn right side out.

Note 1: *This is an example size. These can be made in many different sizes; this is the largest. GMHS uses Snuggle Safe Pet Microwavable Discs to keep young and sick pets warm in the shelter. The dimensions of our Snuggle Safe discs is 8.5 x 8.8 x 1.5 inches.*



Materials

- 2 Rubbermaid™ totes in earth tones, if possible (one must fit inside the other)
- 8'x2' sheet of 1" thick hard Styrofoam
- Yardstick
- Box Cutter
- Straw for Insulation

Instructions

Step 1: Cut a 6" x 6" doorway in one of the long sides of the bin towards the corner. Cut the opening so that the bottom of the doorway is several inches above the ground to prevent flooding.

Step 2: Line the floor of the bin with a piece of Styrofoam, using the yardstick and box cutter to cut the piece. It doesn't have to be an exact fit, but the closer the better.

Step 3: In a similar fashion, line each of the four interior walls of the bin with a piece of the Styrofoam. Again, perfect cuts are not necessary. Leave a gap of three inches between the top of these Styrofoam "wall pieces" and the upper lip of the bin.

Step 4: Cut out a doorway in the Styrofoam interior wall where the doorway has already been cut out in the storage bin.

Community Cat Shelters

(2 Cat Shelters = 4 hrs.)

Step 5: Measure the length and width of the interior space and place a second, smaller-size bin into the open interior. This bin should fit as snugly as possible against the Styrofoam wall pieces. Cut a doorway into this bin where the doorways have been cut into the Styrofoam and outer bin.

Step 6: Stuff the bottom of the interior bin with straw or other insulating material (no blankets or towels!) to provide both insulation and a comfortable spot to lie down.

Step 7: Cut out a Styrofoam “roof” to rest on top of the Styrofoam wall pieces.

Step 8: Cover the bin with its lid.



Ingredients

- 1 ½ cup coconut flour
- ½ cup peanut butter or nut butter of choice, no added ingredients
- 4 organic eggs
- ½ cup coconut oil
- 1 cup + 2 tbsp sweet potato puree or pumpkin puree**

Optional add-ins

- 1/3 cup shredded carrots
- 2 tsp dried parsley

Instructions

Step 1: Preheat oven to 350

Step 2: In a mixing bowl combine all ingredients and form dough into a ball

Step 3: Roll out dough in between two sheets of parchment paper*

Step 4: Gently use your desired cookie cutters to cut and lift cookies into ideal shape**

Step 5: Transfer to a lined baking sheet

Step 6: Bake for 12-15 minutes or until cookies are hard

Step 7: Let cool completely before packaging

Pet Food & Supply Drive



Makes approximately 30 to 34 small biscuits. Total baking time is 40 to 45 minutes

Tip: For dogs with allergies to chicken products, or to make a vegan version, substitute 1/4 cup unsweetened applesauce for one egg.

Make Ahead: Because there is no flour used in this recipe the biscuits are more like soft baked cookies. This biscuit recipe is great for freezing. Just bake as instructed, allow to cool completely then store in a freezer Ziplock bag. Be sure to label the bag with the date and contents. Remove a few biscuits at a time and thaw at room temperature before serving.

Ingredients

- 1 cup cooked black beans (rinsed & drained)
- ¼ cup natural peanut butter
- ½ very ripe banana, mashed
- 1 egg, whipped (see tip below for dogs with allergies to chicken products)

Instructions:

Step 1: Add cooked black beans to a food processor, blender, or use a fork and mash well.

Step 2: Combine mashed beans with peanut butter, banana, and whipped egg. Stir until smooth and well combined.

Step 3: Cover and refrigerate until chilled and slightly thickened, approximately 1 hour.

Step 4: Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

Step 5: Drop by rounded teaspoon onto a parchment lined or nonstick cookie pan.

Step 6: After 15 minutes remove pan and use the back of a spoon or a fork to flatten. Bake another 10 minutes then flip biscuits over.

Step 7: Continue baking 15 to 20 minutes. Allow to cool completely before serving or storing in an airtight container.

Pet Food & Supply Drive

One of the biggest expenses for any non-profit shelter is pet food and supplies. You can be a hero for the pets at GMHS by coordinating a Pet Food & Supply Drive and receive volunteer hours for your efforts!

Check out the pet's wish list for preferred brands!

<http://www.gmhumanesociety.org/wish-list.html>

- Hot Dogs: 10 packages = 1 hr.

- Canned Kitten Food: 12 cans = 1 hr.

- Dog/Cat Toys: 20 Toys = 1 hr

- Canned Puppy & Adult Food: 12 cans = 1 hr

- Peanut Butter: 5 (18oz) jars = 1 hr.

- Dog/Cat Treats: 5lbs = 1 hr.

- Dry Dog/Cat Food: 5 bags (15lbs) = 1 hr.

- Dry Kitten/Puppy Food: 5 bags (15lbs) = 1hr

The numbers above are just estimates. Your final hours will be determined by the GMHS Community Programs Manager.

Thank you for your hard work!
