

# D.I.Y. DONATION GUIDE

Louisiana SPCA



## Do-It-Yourself Donations

1700 Mardi Gras Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70114  
[www.la-sPCA.org](http://www.la-sPCA.org) | 504.368.5191 | [info@la-sPCA.org](mailto:info@la-sPCA.org)

# Thank you!

From the animals and staff of the Louisiana SPCA.

The Louisiana SPCA wants to offer our sincerest thanks for taking the time to help shelter animals. We've made it our mission to promote, protect, and advance the well-being of Louisiana's companion animals. By creating enrichment toys and treats for our animals, you're assisting us in that mission! All of the crafts in this packet can be made and donated to the Louisiana SPCA. Read this booklet with a parent, guardian, or teacher to learn more about enrichment and projects you can do to benefit the Louisiana SPCA and our animal residents. Your work will make a difference in the lives of our animals!



Thank you!

-Louisiana SPCA Humane Education Team

# What is Enrichment?

Shelter enrichment helps to reduce the stress and boredom caused by life in a kennel. It also allows our animals to remain physically and emotionally healthy. Great enrichment programs offer variety each day, and stimulate all five of an animal's senses. Check out some of the enrichment programs we offer our animals below!



## WHY DO WE NEED ENRICHMENT?

Animals in a family home have lots to do during the day. From playing with toys, to barking out of windows, to jumping onto the sofa, they have lots of outlets for their energy when bored. Animals in a shelter spend much of their days in kennels, and don't have the same exciting day-to-day stimuli as owned animals. Enrichment programs help us to fight boredom while our animals wait to find their forever homes. What senses will your DIY donations stimulate?

# Kitty Piñatas

## SUPPLIES

- Clean, empty yogurt containers
- Pipe Cleaners
- Duct Tape
- Temptations Cat Treats
- Scissors

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Make a small hole in the center of the bottom of the first yogurt cup.
2. Push 1-2 inches of pipe cleaner through the hole from the outside of the cup.
3. Tape the pipe cleaner to the inside of the cup.
4. Take the second cup, and cut a few holes in the bottom.

*The holes should be big enough to let the treats fall out, but small enough that it takes some effort.*

5. Add several treats to one of the cups.
6. Tape the two cups together using duct tape,

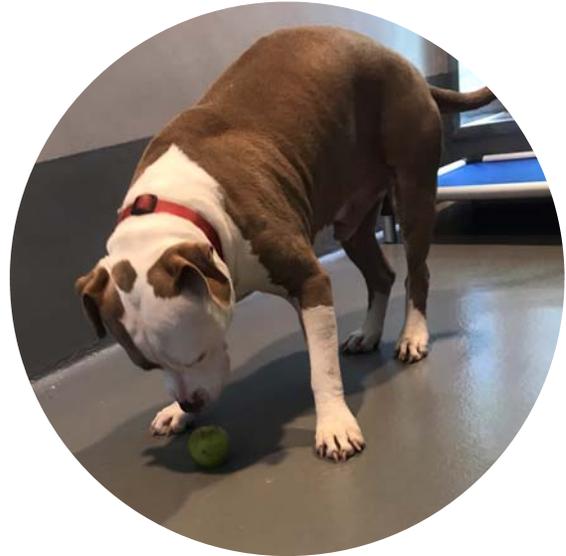


Woofs and meows to Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida for the original ideas. Thank you!

# Peanut Butter Stuffed Apples

## SUPPLIES

- Apples
- Peanut Butter
- Knife or Apple Corer



## DIRECTIONS:

1. With the help of a parent or guardian, remove the core from the apple using a knife or apple corer. Be sure to remove all of the sharp inside and seeds, as these are not good for dogs.
2. Fill the center of the apple with peanut butter.
3. Put the apple in the freezer overnight.



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# Stinky Food Tubes

## SUPPLIES

- Cardboard tubes, such as toilet paper rolls or paper towel rolls
- Food
  - For cats, get some cat treats, tuna, wet food, or dry cat food.
  - For dogs, get some dog treats, peanut butter, and wet or dry food.

## DIRECTIONS:

1. On one end of the tube, fold the edges closed.
2. Mix together your combination of dry and wet ingredients.
3. Add the food mixture to the tube.
4. Fold closed the edges on the open end of the tube.



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# Broth Pupsicles

## SUPPLIES

- Low sodium chicken or beef broth
- Water
- Dry dog food
- Small paper cups or ice cube trays



## DIRECTIONS:

1. Add dry food to the bottoms of the cups or ice cube trays.
2. Dilute the chicken broth with water. You can mix one part water with one part chicken broth.
3. Pour the broth mixture into the cups or paper cups. Be sure to only fill them 3/4 of the way.
4. Freeze overnight.
5. Remove the pupsicles from the ice cube trays and cups. If you've used paper cups, let them sit out for a few minutes to make the pupsicles easier to slide out.



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# Cat Fans



## SUPPLIES

- Pipe cleaners
- Construction paper

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Fold the construction paper back and forth, like an accordion.
2. Wrap a pipe cleaner around the center of the folded paper. Be sure to leave at least 4 inches unwound, to leave room for hanging.
3. Spread out the folded paper to appear fan-like.
4. Now, the toy can be hung for cats to enjoy!



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# Cardboard Scratching Post

## SUPPLIES

- Clean, dry cardboard boxes
- Non-toxic glue
- Scissors or a box-cutter
- Ruler
- *Optional:* Catnip

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut your cardboard into 2 inch by 12 inch strips.
2. Apply glue to the front of one strip, and glue it to another one of the strips.
3. Repeat until you've glued all of the strips together. If you're using catnip, sprinkle a small amount of catnip on the glue every few layers.
4. Trim the edges of the cardboard to make the cat scratching post neat,



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# Yogurt Pupsicles

## SUPPLIES

- 32 oz. container of plain Greek yogurt
- 3 cups dry dog food
- 1 tablespoon peanut butter
- Brown butcher's paper
- Sandwich-sized zippered bags



## DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut squares of brown paper that measure 8 inches by 8 inches.
2. In a large bowl, mix Greek yogurt, peanut butter, and dry dog food.
3. Spoon 1/4 cup of the yogurt mixture into the center of a square of brown paper.
4. Carefully fold the brown paper around the yogurt mixture.
5. Place the folded brown paper into a zippered bag.
6. Continue until you've wrapped all of the yogurt mixture.
7. Freeze the yogurt packs overnight.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the Louisiana SPCA?**

The Louisiana SPCA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the elimination of animal suffering. As the oldest and most comprehensive animal welfare organization in the state, the Louisiana SPCA provides care for over 59,000 homeless and companion animals annually. For more than 130 years, the Louisiana SPCA has been committed to serving the needs of the people and animals in the community and across the region as a 4-Star Charity Navigator rated non-profit ranking in the top 1 percent nationally.

### **Where is the Louisiana SPCA Located?**

You can find us on the Westbank at the foot of the Crescent City Connection. Our address is 1700 Mardi Gras Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70114.

### **How should I contact the Louisiana SPCA's Humane Education Staff?**

You can contact us via email at [education@la-spca.org](mailto:education@la-spca.org) or over the phone at 504.762.3321

### **Can someone come to my event, or talk to my school group about the Louisiana SPCA or the Animal Advocates Program?**

Yes! Send us an email at [education@la-spca.org](mailto:education@la-spca.org) to request a speaker.

### **Can I hand-deliver my items directly to the animals?**

No. Any donations received at the Louisiana SPCA are checked for safety before being given to the animals.

### **Can I make other enrichment items not included in this guide?**

Before you start a DIY donation not included here please send us an email. Our veterinary team works hard to keep our animals healthy, and checks out each enrichment item for safety.

### **Can I make these items for my animals at home?**

Yes! Your pets will love the extra tender love and care put into these toys and treats. If you make them for your pets at home, send us a photo at [education@la-spca.org](mailto:education@la-spca.org)!

### **My project is complete. What's the next step?**

Email us at [education@la-spca.org](mailto:education@la-spca.org) and tell us about your project. We can then set up a time for you to drop off your donations.

### **How can I volunteer with the Louisiana SPCA?**

If you are between the ages of 12 and 15, you may volunteer with a parent or guardian (18 years or older). 16 and 17 year olds are able to volunteer with parental or guardian permission. To learn more about becoming a volunteer and our guidelines, visit [www.la-spca.org/volunteer](http://www.la-spca.org/volunteer).

**For more information and answers to frequently asked questions, check out our website at [www.la-spca.org/FAQS!](http://www.la-spca.org/FAQS!)**