

This is the wish list we provide when/if someone wants to gather items to donate to help the animals. This is a short list of items we use regularly:

- Paper sacks
- Small paper Dixie cups. (Non-waxy)
- Batteries (all sizes)
- 100% natural jams and jellies (less sugar is best)
- 100% natural peanut butter (no sugar, salt or preservatives)
- Whole and shelled nuts (walnuts and almonds, fresh, raw, and unsalted)
- Newspaper
- Gift cards (For example: Green Acres, Raley's, Petco, PetSmart, Lowes, Home Depot, Amazon, Target, etc)
- Frozen Berries
- Fresh or Dried Herbs
- Cardboard boxes without tape, stickers, metal, staples or plastic
- Perfume
- Spices
- Loose leaf tea
- Catnip
- Fresh organic fruit and vegetables (no onions, cabbage, spinach or potatoes)

## Piñatas and Papier-mâché Enrichment Items

**Animal(s) served:** song birds, corvids, raptors, bobcats, foxes, rabbits, raccoons, squirrels

**Supplies needed:** box(es), cardboard tubes, paper plates or other cardboard, newspaper, wheat, water, paint brushes, water based paints

Many animals enjoy tearing into and destroying papier-mâché items or piñatas. It can be especially fun if you create something that looks like the natural prey of carnivores or a natural sparring partner for animals with horns or antlers. Here are safe and easy instructions on how to make these destructible toys. A great piñata or papier-mâché item will take several days to complete because different stages have to dry before you can begin the next stage. Plan on at least a week from start to finish.

Do not use string, tape, staples, wire, cloth or glues! These items can injure animals! All piñatas and papier-mâché items should be made of cardboard, paper, flour and water paste and nontoxic, water based paints only!

1. Begin with a cardboard box that has no tape, string, plastic or staples in or on it. You can close the box by folding and tucking the flaps under each other. The box will be the "belly" of the animal you are creating.
2. Make a thick "paste" out of 1 part flour and 2 parts water.
3. Start putting layers of torn paper over the cardboard box using the thick paste to plaster the paper to the box. Additional shaping can be added by crumpling paper and securing it with torn strips of paper and the paste.
4. If the piñata is to be hung, make a cardboard handle and plaster it into the top of the animals "back".
5. When the "belly" is thick enough, let your creation dry in a cool, dry place with low humidity (to prevent molding) before attaching other "body parts".

6. Begin working on the neck and head. Once again, the head can begin as a small cardboard box. The neck can begin as a cardboard paper towel roll or mailing tube. Cut a small hole in the cardboard box and insert the tube "neck" into the hole. Using the paste, cover the head and neck with plenty of torn paper. Let the head and neck dry.

7. After the head, neck and belly are dry, cut four small holes where the legs should go at the bottom of the belly. Secure each roll to the body by wrapping torn paper and paste around the "joint". Continue to add paper to the legs until they are the desired thickness.

8. Cut a hole the size of the "neck" at the proper place on your "body". Insert the neck part way into the hole and secure with paste and torn paper.

9. To make "fur", shred strips of paper and paste one end only to the animal. Let the whole "animal" dry.

10. Paint your creation using non-toxic water based paints.

11. Cut a small "door" in the top of the "back" of your animal. Fill the cardboard "belly" with acceptable treats through this door.

12. If you are going to "hang" your creation like a piñata, use only cotton, hemp or sisal ropes. It will be suspended from the cardboard handle you built into its back.



## String of Peanuts

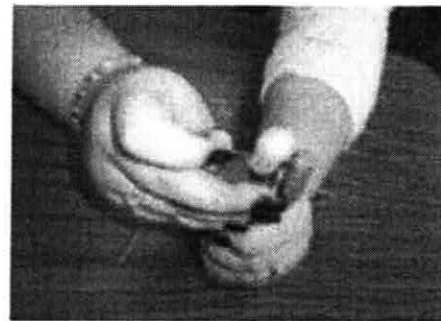
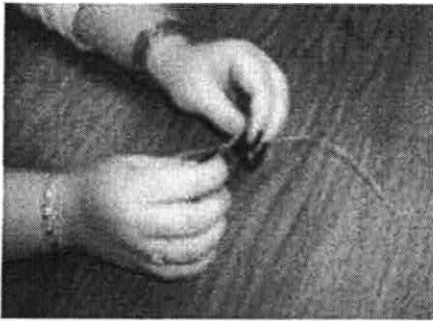
**Animal(s) served:** song birds, corvids, raccoons, squirrels

**Supplies needed:** unsalted peanuts (in the shell), natural raffia, heavy duty needle, scissors, pliers

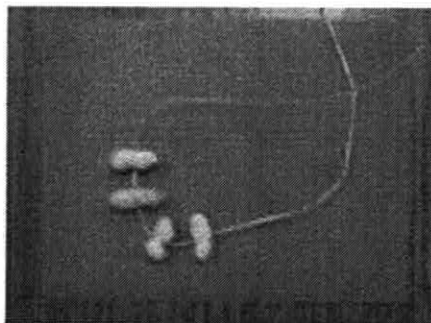
**Procedure:**



1. Thread a piece of raffia (approximately 24" long) through needle.
2. Push needle through center of peanut (try to avoid the nut inside). You may need to use pliers to help pull the needle through.



3. Continue until there are 4 or 5 peanuts on the raffia.
4. Spread peanuts an inch or so apart and tie the raffia at each end to avoid nuts slipping off.
5. Finished string may be tied on branches or cage wire.

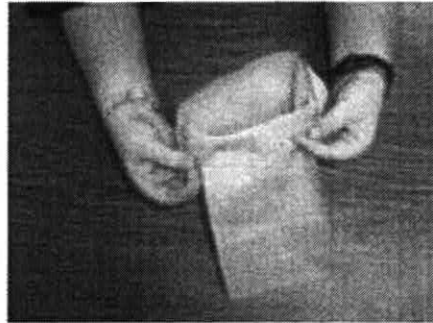


Please note that all enrichment items must consider safety and should be approved by team leaders. Animal health, behaviors and dietary requirements vary among individuals and can often change as an animal ages. Some offerings may work well for one animal and be a danger, or of no interest, to another.

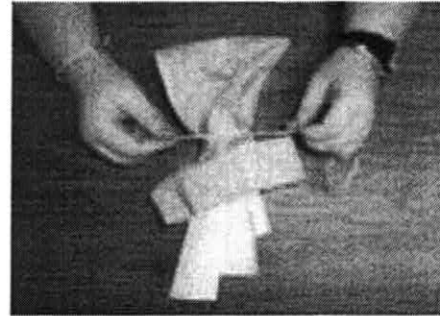
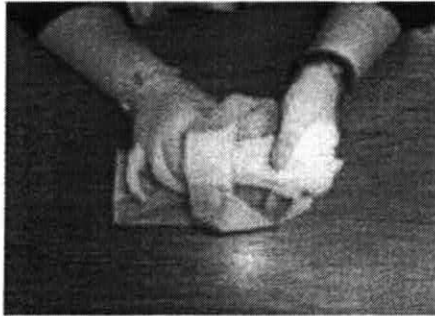
## Paper Bag with Corn Husks

**Animal(s) served:** song birds, corvids, raptors, rabbits, raccoons, squirrels

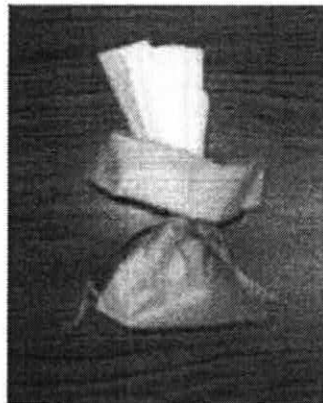
**Supplies needed:** paper lunch bag, dried corn husks, sisal (or other natural) string



1. Fold over top of paper lunch bag twice.



2. Group together 4 - 6 pieces of dried corn husks and place in bag. Allow most of the husk to protrude out of the top of the bag.
3. Additional food or nesting materials may be added as well (avoid damp items that would stick to the paper).
4. Wrap string (approximately 24" length) around the bag twice. This allows tying on branches or cage wire. Tie tightly. Use a double knot. Be sure husks are secured. (If bag is put on ground, or string may cause safety risk, this step may be omitted by simply twisting top of bag).



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