

BOREDOM BUSTERS



HELP FROM
HOME!

Help animals & earn
service hours!



Please read instructions below prior to starting your project!

Thank you so much for your interest in making items for the animals at Charleston Animal Society!

As a shelter, our population constantly changes, so our needs vary throughout the year. For this reason, **please submit a Project Proposal Form for all projects under 10 hours** prior to starting your project.

If you need ten or more service hours, please contact Heather Grogan at hgrogan@charlestonanimalsociety.org, as many of the items in this booklet are *not applicable* to projects of that magnitude.

All service hour projects MUST be approved beforehand, and delivery of items must be scheduled in advance to receive a signature on school service forms.

Quantities of items should not exceed the maximum amount listed, as we do not have the storage space to accept these items in large quantities. We appreciate your understanding.

Questions?

Contact Heather Grogan
hgrogan@charlestonanimalsociety.org

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CAT ENRICHMENT



CATNIP RAT TOY

15 toys = 3 hours (Max limit = 6 hours)

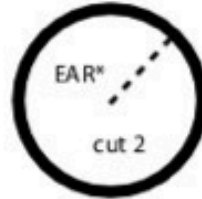
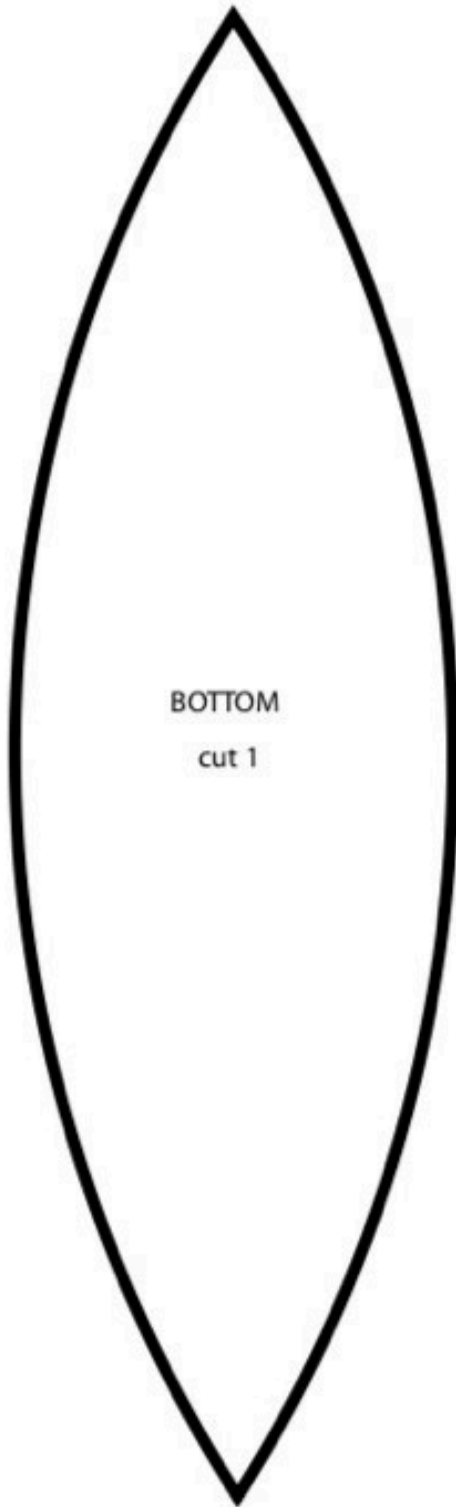


Supplies:

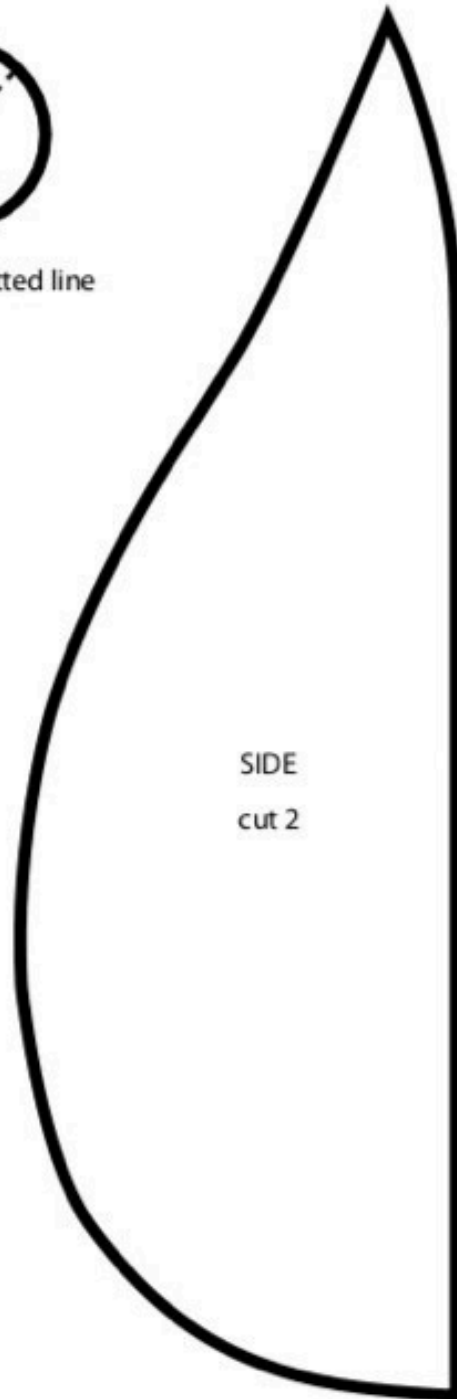
- template (see next page)
- felt
- rope
- cotton batting
- catnip
- scissors
- hot glue gun

Directions:

1. Trace template onto felt and cut out shapes. You will need one bottom piece, 2 side pieces, and 2 ear pieces for each toy.
2. Glue the top edges of the 2 side pieces together, and then glue the bottom piece of felt to the bottom edges of the side pieces, leaving an opening in the back to insert stuffing.
3. Stuff the inside of your rat with cotton batting and catnip.
4. Cut a piece of rope for your rat's tail, and stuff it in the back of your rat toy. Seal toy closed with glue.
5. Glue on the ears. To add eyes, you can cut out small felt circles or draw them on with a marker.



*cut slit on dotted line



CATNIP FISH TOY

30 toys = 5 hours (Max limit = 5 hours)

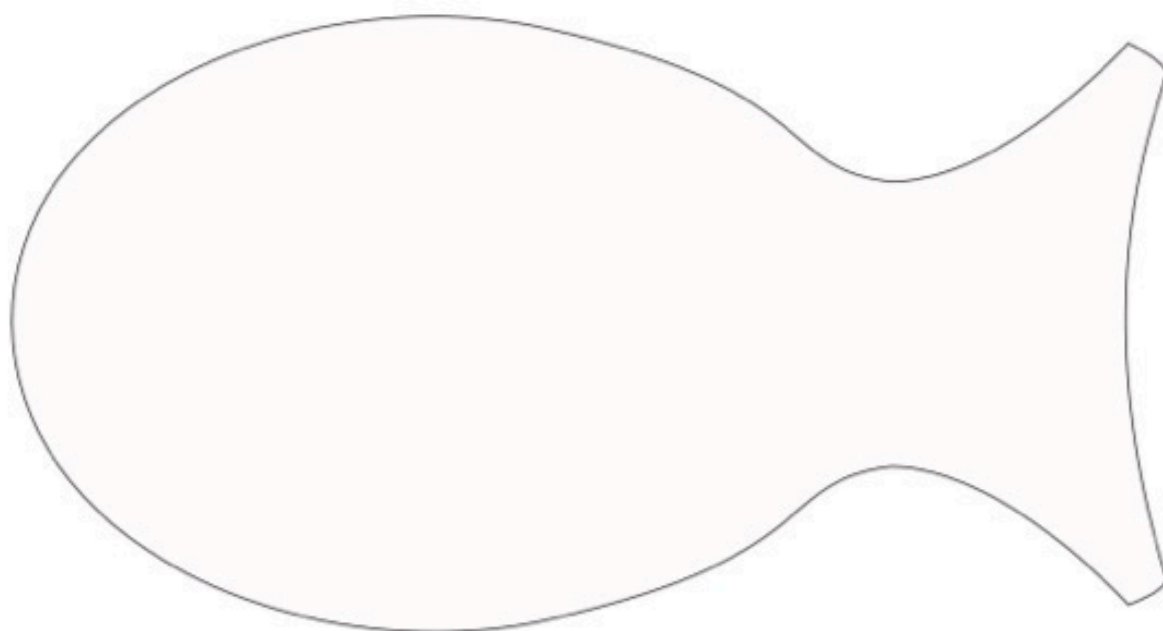


Supplies:

- template (see next page)
- fabric
- pins
- pinking shears
- cotton batting or wool scraps
- piece of paper
- catnip
- needle and thread

Directions:

1. Trace template onto 2 pieces of fabric and cut out shapes.
2. Pin right sides together, leaving 1/4" seam allowance. Sew seam, and leave 1.5" opening for filling.
3. Trim seams with pinking shears.
4. Turn right side out. Press seams flat.
5. Stuff with cotton batting or wool scraps until firm.
6. Shape a piece of paper into a funnel, and use it to add 1-2 tablespoons of dried catnip (or skip step 5 and fill the whole toy with catnip).



CATNIP SOCK TOY

15 toys = 1 hour (Max limit = 2 hours)



Supplies:

- small (kid-sized) sock
- dried catnip
- cotton batting or fabric scraps
- non-toxic markers (optional)

Directions:

1. Place small amount of dried catnip in sock.
2. Stuff the sock with fabric scraps or cotton batting, leaving some room to tie off sock.
3. Tie sock tightly.
4. Draw a fish face on the sock for optional decoration.

KITTY CONDOS

2 condos = 2 hours (Max limit = 4 hours)



Supplies:

- sturdy cardboard box(es) (must be large enough for kitten to fit inside; larger boxes work better)
- pencil
- decorating items: markers/colored pencils/crayons, yarn, feathers, pipe cleaners, stickers, etc.
- retractable razor blade or utility knife
- glue or tape

Directions:

1. Seal cardboard box on all sides.
2. Use a pencil to trace any doors or windows you wish to add. Have an adult assist you in cutting these out with a utility knife.
3. Decorate the box as you wish. The more fun items (feathers, pipe cleaners, ribbon, etc.), the more fun it will be for cats to play in! Get creative! Please be sure all items used for decorating are cat-safe.

***For a fancier 2-level option (and to earn more hours), visit**
<https://www.marthastewart.com/921522/how-make-cardboard-cat-playhouse>

CORK CAT TOY

30 toys = 1 hour (Max limit = 1 hour)



Supplies:

- wine corks (corks can be bought at craft stores, too)
- hot glue gun or epoxy glue
- scissors or screwdriver
- accessories such as feathers, pipe cleaners, jute rope, or raffia string

Directions:

1. Use a pair of scissors or a screwdriver to make a 1/2-3/4" hole in one end of the cork. (TIP: Boiling the corks in a pot of hot water makes them more pliable, and easier to cut. For extra fun, you can also add some catnip to your pot of water to infuse the corks with catnip.)
2. Twist your toy accessories together to make a point at one end.
3. Put a drop of hot glue/epoxy glue into the hole and then insert your accessories (pointed end). Let dry completely.

CAT WAND

5 wands = 1 hour (Max limit = 2 hours)



Supplies:

- wooden dowel rod
- scissors
- duct tape
- fabric pieces: cut strips of fabric/felt, ribbon, clean shoe laces
- optional: markers, feathers, pipe cleaners

Directions:

1. Cut strips of fabric, ribbon, etc. to hang from your wand. Lengths can vary.
2. Optional: Form pipe cleaners into fun shapes, pick out colorful feathers. Attach pipe cleaners and feathers onto one end of each of your strips of fabric, ribbon, etc. You can either tie your accessories on, or use a small piece of duct tape to wrap around both accessory and fabric/ribbon.
3. Tie or tape all strips together at one end (if you put pipe cleaners or feathers on your strips, tie strips together at the opposite end from where these are).
4. 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).

CAT POM-POMS

15 toys = 1 hour (Max limit = 2 hours)



Supplies:

- fleece
- fabric Scissors
- optional: catnip

Directions:

1. Cut several small strips of fleece, about 1/4" by 2-3".
2. Stack at least 20 small strips together. Use another fleece strip to tie the stack together in the center.
3. Each puff can be attached to the ends of a braided piece of fleece or left separately.
4. Optional: Sprinkle catnip on it for additional fun!

***Please only use fleece to tie together the pom-poms as yarn can become a safety hazard if torn apart or ingested.**

CAT PUZZLE FEEDER

2 boxes = 1 hour (Max limit = 1 hour)



Supplies:

- shoebox (or similar-sized box)
- toilet paper or paper towel rolls
- hot glue gun
- scissors

Directions:

1. Cut your toilet paper or paper towel rolls so that they are the same length as the height of your box.
2. Place the tubes in the box, gluing each one in place as you go. Continue until the box is completely full with the tubes.

***Please do not put any food inside of your box.** Shelter staff will do that prior to giving to the cats. To help out, you can bring in a bag of cat treats or dry cat food to donate to be used with it later!

CAT SCRATCHERS

Option 1: Shoebox Scratcher

2 scratchers = 3 hours (Max limit = 6 hours)



Supplies:

- shoebox or similar-sized cardboard box
- large piece of cardboard (flattened boxes work well!)
- scissors
- retractable razor blade or utility knife
- glue
- optional: catnip

Directions:

1. Use a utility knife to cut cardboard into strips that are the same length and height as your box. (Tip: It is easiest to first cut a piece that fits nicely, and then use that as a tracer for your other pieces. You can trace a bunch onto your flattened cardboard boxes prior to cutting them out to save time.)
2. Place your strips side by side into the box (**corrugated edge up**), putting glue in between each strip to keep everything together. Continue placing cardboard in the box until it is completely full.
3. For added fun, you can sprinkle your scratcher with some dried catnip.

* For more scratcher options, see pages 14 & 15.

Option 2: Circle Scratcher

1 scratcher = 2 hours (Max limit = 8 hours)



Directions: <https://www.theartofdoingstuff.com/diy-cat-scratching-pad/>

Option 3: Traffic Cone Scratching Post

1 scratcher = 2 hours (Max limit = 10 hours)



Directions: <https://betterhousekeeper.com/2014/09/24/pet-diy-make-a-cat-scratching-post-out-of-a-traffic-cone/>

Option 4: Fancy Scratching Post

1 scratcher = 4 hours (Max limit = 8 hours)



Directions: <https://www.dreamalittlebigger.com/post/diy-cat-scratching-post-that-literally-lasts-for-years.html>

DOG ENRICHMENT



FABRIC BRAIDS

15 toys = 1 hour (Max limit = 1 hours)



Supplies:

- fleece, cotton fabric, or thick material
- optional: tennis ball, dog toy

Directions:

1. Cut fabric into approximately 4" wide strips.
2. Take 3 strips of fabric, and use a regular plait braid to braid all 3 strips together, tying it off in a knot at both ends.
3. Optional: To make your toy even more fun, you can remove the center of a toy such as a tennis ball, and string it through.

ROPE TOYS

1 toy = 1 hour (Max limit = 3 hours)



Rope toys are a more advanced version of our fabric braids and are far more challenging to make. Their sturdiness is excellent for high-energy dogs and heavy chewers.

Please let us know if your toy took longer to construct than one hour. Putting in the extra time to make these toys will earn you extra hours, and our dogs and staff will greatly appreciate it!

Visit the pages below for tutorials.

<https://www.instructables.com/id/RING-DOG-TOY/>

<https://www.instructables.com/id/Dog-Toys-for-Heavy-Chewers/>

<https://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-make-a-ball-and-rope-dog-toy/>

SNUFFLE MAT/BASKET

1 mat + 1 bag of treats = 2 hours (Max limit = 10 hours)



Supplies:

- A rubber mat with holes in it, cut to the size of your choice or basket with holes.
- Sharp scissors
- Fleece fabric (We recommend using at least two different colors.)

Directions:

1. Cut the fleece into seven-inch strips. You'll need at least twice as many strips as there are holes in your mat or basket.
2. Choose one color of fleece strips and double knot the strips into each hole in the mat or basket 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. Please note, depending on the mat or basket, you may need to add more than two knots of fabric per hole.

STUFFED LUNCH BAGS

30 bags = 1 hour (Max limit = 10 hours)



Supplies:

- paper lunch bags
- mixing bowl
- large spoon
- dry dog food
- wet dog food
- dog treats
- spray cheese or peanut butter

Directions:

1. Put dry dog food, wet dog food, and dog treats in a large bowl, mixing everything together well.
2. Scoop a large spoonful (or 2) into the bottom of a brown paper lunch bag.
3. Fold bag over twice until just the top of the bag is left. Smear either peanut butter or spray cheese onto the remaining section of the bag, and then fold it over to create a sealed package.
4. Freeze for a minimum of 12 hours prior to bringing to Charleston Animal Society to donate.

OCTOPUS DOG TOY

10 toys = 3 hours (Max limit = 6 hours)



Supplies:

- tennis Ball
- t-shirt
- scissors

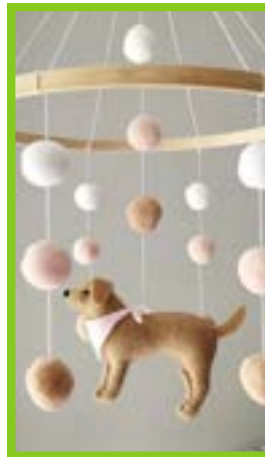
Directions:

1. Lay t-shirt on a flat surface and make three cut marks. Two pieces will be 5-6" and one piece will be about 2" wide. Cut straight across from marks and you will have three circular pieces. **(see photo 1)**
2. Cut along ONE of the seams of each piece to create long strips of fabric.
3. Lay the two thick strips down in the shape of an X and place the ball in the middle. **(see photo 2)**
4. Pull all four ends up, covering the ball. Use the skinny strip of material to tightly tie and secure the fabric at the base of the ball (using a double knot). You will have 4 strips hanging from the ball.
5. Cut each strip into three even sections. This will leave you with 12 strips hanging from the base of the tennis ball. **(see photo 3)**
6. **Tightly** braid three strips together and knot them at the bottom. Repeat until you have 4 braids complete. **Final product will look like photo 4.**

Dog Kennel Mobile

1 mobile= 1 hour (Max limit = 3 hours)

Material Examples:



Base Options:



Supplies:

- Metal base or wooden base
- Variety of attention catching materials (thick pipe cleaners, ribbon, beads, pom poms, etc)
- Fishing line or heavy duty string for hanging

Directions:

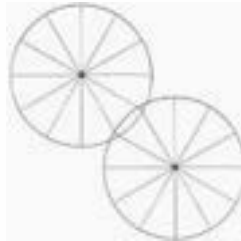
1. Attach visually appealing materials to a wooden base, ensuring a variety of vibrant items to capture a dog's attention.
2. Fasten fishing line or sturdy string to the top of the base for hanging the mobile.

NOTE: The mobile should measure between 15 inches and 27 inches in length from top to bottom.

Material Examples:



Base Options:



RABBIT ENRICHMENT



CAP RATTLES

5 rattles = 1 hour (Max limit = 2 hours)



Supplies:

- plastic bottle caps
- heavy twine or sisal rope
- drill and drill bit

Directions:

1. Drill a hole through the middle of each plastic lid. Ask an adult to help with drilling!
2. Cut rope or twine about 10" long.
3. Then, **either** A. Tie one knot, larger than the hole you drilled, at about the 2" mark. Thread a cap on the rope. Make another knot to keep the cap in place. Slide another cap onto the rope and tie another knot to keep the cap in place. Continue to do this until you have about 4-5 caps on the rope. Tie the two ends together to make a circle. **OR** B. Make a knot at about 2", slide all the caps on the rope without knotting in between. Tie the two ends together to make a circle. This allows the cap to move freely around the rope.

***Be sure to make the circle small enough that it would not get stuck around a rabbit's head.**

For more information or ideas go to:

<http://www.budgetbunny.ca/category/rabbit-toys/page/4/>

NEWSPAPER TUNNEL

4 tunnels = 1 hour (Max limit = 2 hours)



Supplies:

- newspaper
- large round item (such as a circular cake tin or large mixing bowl)

Directions:

Visit the page below for a tutorial.

<https://petdiys.com/newspaper-rabbit-tunnel/>

***Be sure to make the circle large enough that it will not get stuck around a rabbit's head.**

HANGING CHEW TOYS

5 toys = 2 hours (Max limit = 4 hours)



Supplies:

- sisal rope
- scissors
- untreated wood pieces (If using colored wood, please make sure it is non-toxic)
- drill (only needed if wood pieces do not have holes)
- optional: popsicle sticks, untreated wicker, cardboard, raffia, bells, etc.

Directions:

1. Drill holes in center of wood if needed.
2. Cut rope to be about 12" long.
3. Tie a knot at top of rope. Leave enough room to allow rope to hang if desired.
4. String objects onto the rope in any fashion you desire. Leave at least two inches at the base of the rope.
5. Tie a knot at the base of the rope to keep objects on the rope. Optional: Add a bell at the base of the toy.

For inspiration and to purchase appropriate supplies go to Bless Their Cottontails: <https://www.blesstheircottontails.com.au/>

ROLLING RATTLES

5 rattles = 1 hour (Max limit = 2 hours)



Supplies:

- small clean canister with lid (no larger than 4-5" wide)
- clean pebbles or beads
- kraft paper or paper shopping bags
- sisal rope or twine

Directions:

1. Rinse and dry the canister and pebbles or beads.
2. Place pebbles or beads in the canister and close lid on top.
3. Cut large piece of Kraft paper or paper bag (at least 6" wider than canister) and lay flat.
4. Roll the canister in the paper multiple times to create several layers around canister to prevent the rabbit from easily tearing off the paper.
5. Twist the ends on both sides of the canister and tie off with rope or twine. Wrap rope several times and make several knots to prevent it from being easily chewed off.
6. If there is excess paper on each end, cut it so there is only a few inches at each end.

PUZZLE BALLS

20 balls = 1 hour (Max limit = 3 hours)



Supplies:

- paper towel or toilet paper rolls
- scissors

Directions:

1. Cut toilet paper/paper towel rolls into approx. 1/4" rings.
2. Layer rings together at different angles. After about 5 rings, a ball will start to take shape. Keep adding rings until it looks like a full sphere.
3. Optional: Donate a bag of bunny treats for staff to use to stuff inside!

GENERAL ITEMS



NO SEW BLANKET

2 blankets = 1 hour (Max limit = 6 hours)



Supplies:

- fabric scissors or very sharp scissors
- fleece fabric

Directions:

1. Determine how large of a blanket you would like to make. (For example, a 2' by 3' is a good size blanket for a small kitten, but larger blankets can be used for adult cats and small or large dogs) Cut 2 pieces of fabric so that they are the same exact size.
2. Place the 2 pieces of fabric on top of one another. Going around the edges, cut strips about 1" wide and 5" long around the entire thing (cutting through both pieces of fabric at the same time).
3. Once all sides are cut, take the top and bottom strips and knot them together until the all of the strips are tied together.

RICE SOCKS

10 socks = 1 hour (Max limit = 5 hours)



Supplies:

- adult-sized socks
- non-toxic markers
- uncooked rice
- sheet of paper, paper cup with bottom cut out, or funnel

Directions:

1. Decorate socks with markers. Be creative and colorful! Your socks will be used either to help dogs and cats recover from surgery, or for neonatal foster puppies and kittens.
2. Use an 8.5" by 11" piece of paper rolled into a cone, a paper cup with the bottom cut out, or a funnel if you already have one at home, to use as a funnel to get the rice into the sock without spilling. Pour rice through funnel into sock, until it is filled to (approximately) the heel area of the sock.
3. Tie a knot at the end of the sock.

TVAR TRAP COVER

1 cover = 2 hours (Max limit = 10 hours)



Cat Trap Cover (Tomahawk Neighborhood Cat Trap 36")

Cat Trap Cover (Tomahawk Neighborhood Cat Trap 36"): TNVR (Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate, and Return) is a movement to help Community Cats live safer and healthier lives within their home areas. Community Cats...

 Instructables / Apr. 29, 2019

Supplies:

- Fabric (Fleece or old towels)- You will need a yard and a half of 44" wide fabric for each trap cover.
- Scissors
- Sewing machine
- Tape measure

Directions:

There are a few different ways to create this item. For detailed instructions, visit: <https://www.instructables.com/Cat-Trap-Cover/>

For a simpler version, you could also create a cover by simply cutting a hole in a large towel (for the trap handle) and reinforcing around the edges with a handsewn topstitch.

"PENNIES FOR PETS"

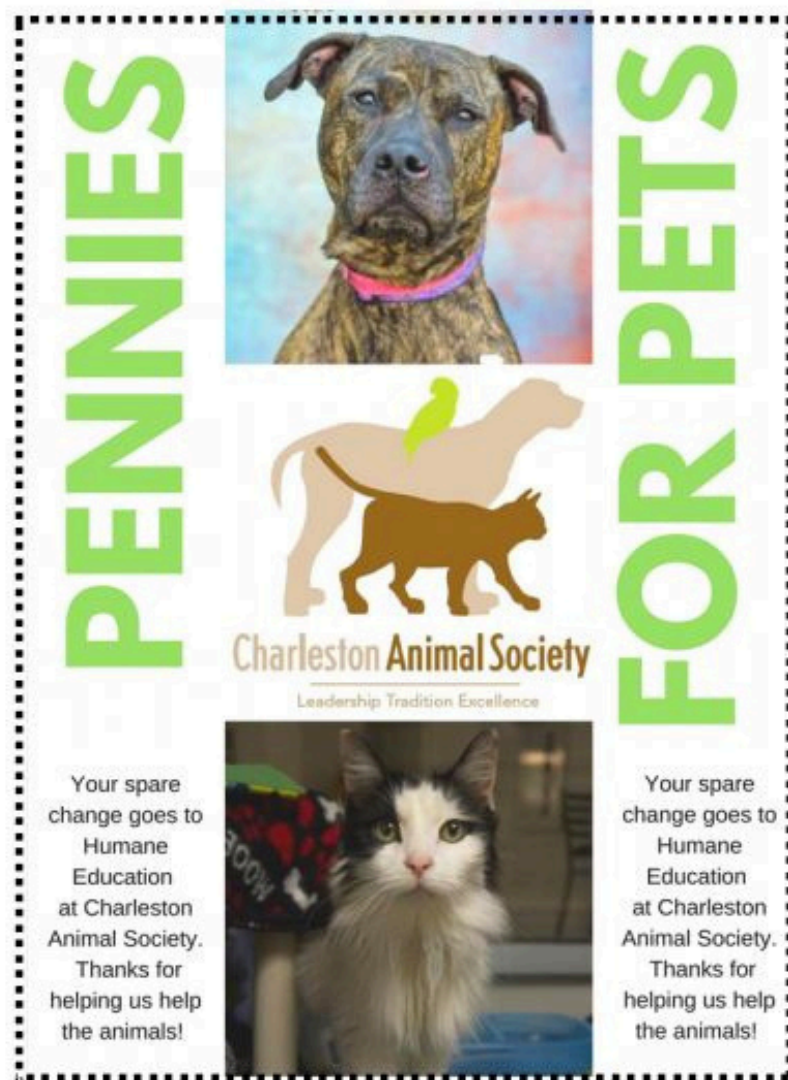
\$20.00 = 1 hour (Max= 5 hours)



Cut out logo

Supplies:

- Empty coffee can or gallon jug with lid
- Colored construction paper
- Tape
- Markers/crayons
- CAS logo labels



Directions:

1. Cover your container with construction paper. Decorate the paper with pet drawings. Cut out labels and attach somewhere on container.
2. Visit a local business (school, church, gas station, etc.) and explain why you are collecting money for Charleston Animal Society. Give your container to the business owner if they say it's okay, and stop by weekly or more often to check on your container.
3. At the end of your drive or when your container is full, count and roll coins, and then bring in to CAS!

DONATION COLLECTION

Charleston Animal Society is always happy to accept any monetary or in-kind donations. Below is a list of ideas for raising money or collecting supplies for our animals.

See page 35 for a list of items needed and how many hours you can earn for them.



1. Host a lemonade stand.
2. Have a bake sale.
3. Ask friends/family members/neighbors. (Charleston Animal Society will accept lightly used bedding, towels, sheets, and certain pet items. Many people have these things lying around the house!)
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 CAS for your birthday, Christmas, etc. instead of gifts for yourself.
10. Write donation request letters to people in the community.

DONATION COLLECTION

-Non-clumping cat litter (please no scoop-able litter, only non-clumping!):
5 containers/bags = 1 hr.

-Hot Dogs: 10 packages = 1 hr.

-Canned Kitten Food: 36 cans = 1 hr.

-Dog/Cat Toys: 20 toys = 1 hr.

-Canned Puppy & Adult Dog Food: 24 cans = 1 hr.

-Kong Medium/Large: 2 = 1 hr.

-Kong Small: 3 = 1 hr.

-Catnip: 10 containers = 1 hr.

-Dog/Cat Training Treats: 10 bags = 1 hr.

-Dry Dog/Cat Food: 5 bags = 1 hr.

-Rice: 10 lbs = 1 hr.

-Carefresh Small Animal Bedding (no wood chips please!): 2 bags = 1 hr.

-Timothy hay: 2 bags = 1 hr.

NOTE: These numbers are just estimates. Your final hours can only be determined by our Humane Education staff members (Kylie Wiest, Heather Grogan, and/or De Daltorio).

**Please, call ahead to schedule drop-off & sign-off on hours at
843-329-0770 or hgrogan@charlestonanimalsociety.org**

**Thank you
so much for your
hard work!**

