

# **JUST FOR KIDS**

There are many ways for individual children as well as schools, scouts and other groups to get involved and help the animals cared for by Michigan Humane. Here are some ideas, but feel free to think of your own!



### **Kitty Forts for Cats and Kittens:**

Kitty forts make a great craft project for school or scout groups, family get-togethers or a birthday or holiday activity. Kitty forts help keep the cats and kittens happy and alleviate stress while they await new, loving homes. They're bright and colorful, and made from simple cardboard boxes.

- 1. Select a cardboard box with these approximate dimensions: 12" x 12" x 12".
- 2. Cut out a large opening for the front side (ask an adult for assistance).
- 3. Cover the box with construction paper, butcher block paper or mailing paper using non-toxic school glue.
- 4. Decorate your kitty fort with ink stamps or small stickers.
- 5. Please DO NOT use string or yarn.

### **Foraging Bags for Dogs and Puppies:**

Foraging bags are part of our dogs daily enrichment. Enrichment is anything that keeps the dogs busy and engaged while they wait for their forever homes. All you need is paper bags, treats, and newspaper!

- 1. Write the date on the bag.
- 2. Open your brown paper bag and drop in a small handful of shredded newspaper
- 3. Roll a small amount of treats into pieces of newspaper. The finished bag should have no more than a handful of treats inside.
- 4. Drop all your rolled up treats inside the brown paper bag and roll up the bag tightly.





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#### **Toys For Cats:**

Cats love the sound of crinkly Mylar! To make an irresistible toy, simply sew the Mylar inside a piece of material along with a small amount of catnip.

- 1. Fold the felt square in half.
- 2. Draw half a heart on the square using a non-toxic marker. The wide section of the heart should touch the outer edge of the felt, and the tip should touch the bottom end of the felt, right on the fold.
- 3. Cut along the line. When you unfold the felt, you should have a heart shape.
- 4. Fold the heart again and begin to sew up the edges, starting at the point, using a blanket stitch or a whip stitch. When you are 2/3 done, stuff the mouse with dried catnip and mylar or batting.
- 5. Finish sewing, so that the mouse is a little bag, using extra felt scraps to make a tail. Use non-toxic fabric marker to add eyes and whiskers. Let dry.

#### **Bandanas:**

Cut material into various sized triangles to make festive, colorful bandanas for dogs and cats. All sizes are welcome at our three adoption centers.

