



“Find-It” Game for Cats

Cats need an outlet for exploratory or searching behavior. In the wild, feral cats typically eat 10-20 small meals over a 24-hour period and spend a good part of their time hunting. Providing cats with the opportunity to search for their food, can provide for physical activity and mental stimulation.

Items needed

Numerous small treats or cat food
Small paper cups (4oz) quantity of 6 to 12

The game

1. When first teaching this game, let the cat observe a treat or a few pieces of cat food (4 or 5 pieces of dry food) being placed in a 4 oz. cup. Place the cup on the ground and let the cat knock it over or use her paw to remove the food.
2. Once the cat has learned to remove the food from the cup, begin to “hide” treat filled cups in cat-allowed locations while the cat is watching. Potential locations are behind a piece of furniture, on a cat tree, under a table. Avoid locations where human food is placed or any location where the cat is not allowed to explore.
3. Give the cue, “Find-it” while stepping away from the hidden cup.
4. Repeat this game at least daily. Once the cat understands this game, increase the difficulty level by hiding the treat filled cups with her out of sight. Start the game with the cue word, “Find-it!”