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Bird Foraging Toys

Simple ways to enrich your bird's day-to-day life

The more time your bird spends searching for his food, the less time he will spend picking his feathers, or performing repetitive, functionless motion.

Here are three simple types of foraging activities and toys:

1. **COVER**- Place a sheet of paper (or paper towel, cardstock, newspaper) over your bird's food dish, so that it can be easily knocked off. As your bird begin to understand, make the game more difficult and fasten the paper over the bowl with masking tape.
2. **BURY**- Place a small amount of food in the dish and cover with wooden beads, polished stones, shredded paper, or small blocks of wood. If wet food treats are used, make sure the cover is washable material. Also, use caution when selecting the cover-beads or stones should be large enough to ensure your bird will not accidentally swallow them.
3. **WRAP**- Place a small amount of food in a destructible container, such as a paper cup or paper towel roll. Seal the container by crushing the opening(s). Use this type of toy as a foot toy (where the bird holds in his foot and destroys—difficult), hang multiple wraps throughout the cage, or hang from a skewer.
4. **TUBE**- Place food or treats in a tube. Be careful if using paper towel rolls. There have been incidences of zinc found in the adhesives on the outside of the roll. A safe alternative is plain cardstock rolled up and secured with masking tape.