

Craft toys and enrichment

1. Foraging toys

➤ Cone-chain

- **Materials:** cones (pine, spruce etc.), cotton or leather ribbons, sunflower seeds, dried berries, different nuts, cordless drill or gimlet



different types of cones

- drill a hole in the bottom of the cones
- tie the leather ribbon in the cone
→ take two or three different cones together= more diversification for the parrots



Example how it could look like

- you can fill the gaps in the cones with berries, nuts and seeds
→ you can also use cones with their own seeds inside. Parrots love them!



➤ Coconut cup

- **Materials:** coconut cup, cotton or leather ribbons, different material to cover the cup (for example cardboard for budgies and lovebirds; balsawood for amazon parrots and macaws), cordless drill, scissors, pencil
 - drill a hole in the bottom of the coconut cup
 - put the ribbon through the hole and tie a knot to fix the ribbon
 - put the open side of the cup on the cardboard and draw the outline of the cup
 - draw a star in the circle and cut it out
 - ➔ the star should be small enough that the bird can look inside the cup.
But if the star is too small, it would be too easy for the parrots to get the food inside the cup.
 - put a hole in the middle of the star and put the ribbon through the hole
- ➔ you can fill the coconut cup with dried fruits, nuts and other food
- ➔ the bird has to raise the cover or to destroy it to get the food inside



Example how it could look like



➤ **Corn leaf package**

- **Material:** dried corn leaves, bast fibres, dried fruits, nuts, Nutri-Berries, tanks with water,
 - soak the corn leaves in the water tanks
 - take a leaf out of the water and dry it with a towel
 - put fruits, nuts etc. at one end of the leaves
 - start to roll up the leaf until it looks like a bonbon
 - close the left and the right side of the bonbon with the help of the bast fibres
- ➔ it is good for big birds like amazon parrots, grey parrots and macaws. They will grab the package with their claws and bite it with their beak.



Webpages with different examples of parrot enrichment:

- <http://www.parrotenrichment.com/>
- <http://www.behaviorworks.org/files/articles/Parrot%20Enrichment%20Activity%20Book%201.pdf>
- <https://www.parrots.org/lp/parrot-toy-forage/>
- <https://understandingparrots.com/category/enrichment/>



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Some more examples of parrot enrichment and toys:



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