



The Muffin Tin Game

This is an enrichment activity that is fun for your dog and easy to set up. Some dogs will lift the items off the tin with their mouth and others will paw the items off with their feet. It is a great way to encourage your dog to problem solve.

For those with younger dogs and puppies, start a little easier. Place one piece of kibble in each section of the tin and allow the furkid to eat the goodies. Do this a couple of times before putting items over the kibble. Once the furbaby knows what to expect, he/she will be happy to figure out how to remove the item for the kibble below.

This link shows an adult dog playing the game for the first time. Please note how the owner supports the dog while it learns. Cold Nose College: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0rZ1ueox8xw>

For those of you with older dogs, who might already know how to use their clever noses, you can play another version. Put several pieces of kibble in some (not all) of the sections and put items over all of the sections. Now sit back and watch as your sweetie plays a fun scent game while working for their meal.

DoggyU: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9KxcUhaCE>

For families with multiple dogs, this is a perfect opportunity to work on 'wait' and 'taking turns' – meaning while one dog is playing the game, the other is watching, waiting and practicing self-control. Using a mat or specific location (like a nearby crate, couch, bed) can be very helpful.

HINT: If you don't have tennis balls you can use other dog toys. This small muffin tin is covered by a variety of items. When the family pups play this version of the game, they often switch between using their mouth or their feet depending on the item.

