DOG ENRICHMENT NEEDS

DAILY Enrichment Needs

• A comfortable resting/sleeping surface inside the animal’s enclosure at all times
  o Light and darkness should support the natural (circadian) rhythms of wakefulness and sleep

• Access to a chew item
  o Bully stick, rawhide, tendon, durable chew toy (such as Nylabone®), pig’s ear, etc.

• Access to at least one novel toy
  o Stuffie, ball, squeaky, rope, tug, etc.

• Social interaction (minimum of 15 minutes)

• Physical exercise
  o Walk, run, agility work, fetch, flirt pole, swimming etc.

• Rotation of enrichment choices – Pick two from the following list. Choices should rotate daily to avoid habituation which can devalue the benefits of enrichment.

Enrichment List

Auditory

• Music
• Sound machine
• Classical music
• Water fountains
• Music or sound therapy (i.e. Through a Dog’s Ear)

Olfactory

• Scent tracking (such as K9 Nose Work®)
• Find it games
• Hidden treats
• Tracking
• Pheromones
• Essential oils
• Dry spices
• Synthetic prey scents

**Visual**

• Hanging mobiles
• Bubbles
• Television
• Access to window

**Mental Stimulation**

• Digging
• Puzzle Toys
• Operant, positive reinforcement training

**WEEKLY Enrichment Needs**

• Regular access to novel indoor or safe outdoor areas at least 3 times per week for a minimum of 30 minutes per session
  ○ Office, play yard, field trip, hike, etc.
• If appropriate, access to other dogs via walks, playgroups or cohousing

*Please note special consideration should be given to puppies under the age of 12 weeks.*

*Please see “Social Interaction” in SAWA Animal Enrichment Best Practice.*