Enrichment is a practice of modifying an environment to enable an animal to display normal behaviors, which improves the well-being of that animal. Enrichment helps to keep animals both physically and mentally stimulated and can be created using common household items.

**Foraging & Puzzle Solving**
Enrichment that promotes foraging, grazing, or puzzle solving behaviors includes:
- Pet-safe plants such as grass (turtles, rabbits)
- Paper tube or cardboard puzzles (rabbits, rodents, birds)
- Hay bins (rabbits, rodents)

**Exercise**
Enrichment that promotes movement and exercise includes:
- Shredding toys (birds)
- Tubes or tunnels to explore (rodents, ferrets, snakes)
- Dig boxes (rabbits)
- Vertical hanging toys (rodents, sugar gliders)
- Exercise wheels (rodents, hermit crabs)

**Security**
Enrichment that can allow animals to feel safe includes:
- Hide boxes (chinchillas, guinea pigs, hedgehogs)
- Caves (fish)
- Tubes or tunnels to explore (rodents, ferrets, snakes)

**Sensory**
Enrichment that promotes utilizing senses include:
- Visual - touchscreen devices, television (reptiles)
- Auditory - singing, talking, radio playing (birds, amphibians)
- Olfactory (scent) - food items, old t-shirts (small mammals, snakes)
- Tactile - substrates of different textures (small mammals, amphibians)
Enrichment for Exotic Pets

Shopping List

Here you will find a list of common household items or other materials that can be used to create enrichment for your exotic pet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Household Items</th>
<th>Craft &amp; Building Materials</th>
<th>Miscellaneous Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Paper towel and toilet paper rolls</td>
<td>□ Fleeces and felt squares</td>
<td>□ Stuffed animals</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Saved cardboard from packaged food or deliveries</td>
<td>□ River polished stones, pebbles</td>
<td>□ Wooden toy blocks</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Bubble wrap</td>
<td>□ Non-toxic kids paint</td>
<td>□ Aquarium safe caulk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Tupperware and plastic containers of all sizes</td>
<td>□ Plastic canvas sheets</td>
<td>□ Driftwood</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Shredded paper</td>
<td>□ Clay or ceramic plant pots</td>
<td>□ Coconut hides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Paper cups</td>
<td>□ PVC pipe attachments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Touch screen devices</td>
<td>□ Electrical tape</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Television</td>
<td>□ Dremel and sanding bits</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Radio</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Old t-shirts/sheets/pillowcases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Small pillows</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Laundry bins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Resources:

- “Enrichment for Exotic Pets” with Dr. La’Toya Latney
- https://www.abyssinianguineapigtips.com/make-your-own-guinea-pig-toys/
- http://www.lovepetsdiy.com/category/pet-toys/
- https://www.pinterest.com/pin/397724210837449599/
- https://petfaves.com/make-bird-toys-household-items/