# EGG CARTON TREAT HUNT

## Materials Needed

- A cardboard egg carton (not foam or plastic)
- Small dry treats or kibble
- Optional: plain paper scraps and a pinch of catnip or silvervine
- Scissors

**Why it works:** Sniffing out and pawing treats from each cup mimics hunting and foraging, turning snack time into a confidence-building game.



## Step-by-Step Instructions

### 1. Prep the Carton

- Peel off any labels or stickers.
- Check inside for egg residue. If it's stained or smells, bin it and use a clean one.

### 2. Pick a Difficulty

- **Beginner:** lid off, treats sitting in the open cups.
- **Intermediate:** lid closed, with a few holes poked in the top so the smell escapes.
- **Advanced:** scrunch a little paper into each cup on top of the treats.

### 3. Fill It

- Drop 1–2 treats into some cups and leave others empty to keep cats guessing.

### 4. Set It Out in the Room

- Put out several cartons spread around the room so every cat gets a turn without competing.
- Start new or shy cats on beginner level and build up as they get the hang of it.

### 5. Clean Up

- Remove cartons once they're empty, soggy, or shredded, and recycle them.
- Watch for any cat guarding the cartons, and add more or space them further apart if needed.

### 6. Make It Harder

- Once they've mastered Advanced, twist treats inside small paper wrappers before dropping them in.
- Add a ping pong ball to a few cups so cats have to move it to reach the treat underneath.
- Cut the cups apart and hide them around the room for a full treat hunt.
- Only make it harder once they're finding treats easily. A frustrated cat walks away.

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