Fun winter games for you & your pet!

When winter arrives, it can be cold, wet, and windy outside. Brrr! That means we often spend more time indoors. But did you know that pets can get bored or sad if they don't have enough fun things to do? Just like you, pets need games and activities to keep their brains happy. This is called enrichment – a big word that means "fun that helps you feel good"!

Here are some brilliant indoor ideas you can try with your pet this winter.

For Dogs:

1. Treasure Hunt!

Hide a few dog treats around one room and let your dog sniff them out. Dogs LOVE using their noses – it's like solving a puzzle!

2. Learn a New Trick

Can your dog spin, shake paws, or lie down? Teaching tricks is fun for both of you and helps dogs feel proud and clever.

3. Play Hide & Seek!

This one really gets you involved! Hide in the house (or garden if it's warm enough!) and call out to your pooch. They have to sniff you out and find you - and of course, they get a reward when they do!

For Cats:

1. Box Adventures

Cats adore boxes! Make a castle or tunnel using empty boxes and watch your cat explore.

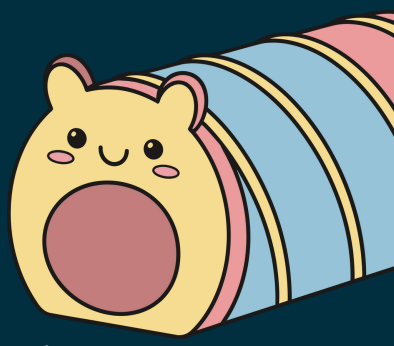
2. Feather Fun

Use a wand toy, trickle it along the floor, and let your cat jump and pounce like a tiger.

3. Window Watching

Put a comfy blanket near a window so your cat can watch birds and see the world go by!

For Small Pets:



1. Make a Maze

Use tubes, boxes, or safe toys to make a maze for rabbits, hamsters, or guinea pigs to run through.

2. Hide the Snack

Hide food in different places so your pet has to search for it – just like they would in the wild.

3. Talk and Sing

Many small pets love hearing your voice. Singing or chatting helps them feel safe and loved.

Why Indoor Fun Matters

Pets have feelings too! If they get bored, they might feel lonely, worried, or grumpy. Playing and spending time together helps pets feel safe, happy, and loved. It also helps them stay healthy, even when they can't go outside as much.

So, when the rain is pouring, and the wind is howling, don't worry – you can still have loads of fun with your furry (or feathery!) friend. All they really want is **time with you**.

Happy winter playing!

newton clarke veterinary surgeons