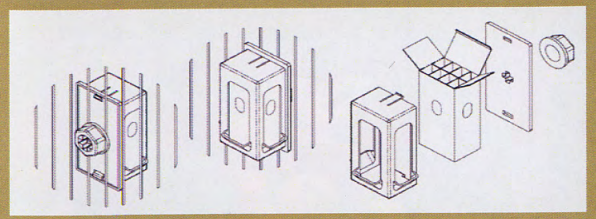
Integrating foraging behavior into your daily feeding protocol will create a stimulating environment, which encourages the natural behaviors universally recommended by avian veterinarians.

The Creative Foraging Systems concept is really quite simple. A user friendly, cost effective system for feeding companion birds which requires the birds to work for their food as they would in the wild. More time engaging in healthy, time consuming activity means less time available for other potentially harmful activities or undesirable behaviors *such as* feather picking, excessive screeching etc.

A polycarbonate feeding devise is available in both horizontal and vertical configurations and holds a USDA approved chipboard box. Inside the box is the key to foraging and making your bird work for food. A honeycomb insert retains the food and only makes more food available as the parrot continues to chew thru the honeycomb wafer.

To maximize the benefits of this system try using multiple feeding stations in various locations. Encourage environmental exploration and promote search instinct by regularly changing the location of the feeding stations.

The CFS challenge is to dramatically increase the amount of time companion birds spend searching for and acquiring food.



Above diagram illustrates the four simple steps required to install the feeder. Feeder may now be filled with your choice of pellets, dried fruit, nuts, fresh vegetables etc.

Additional foraging activities can be made available by offering one of two CFS foraging treats.

Other interactive treat dispensers offered by Paradise Toys.

Sphere

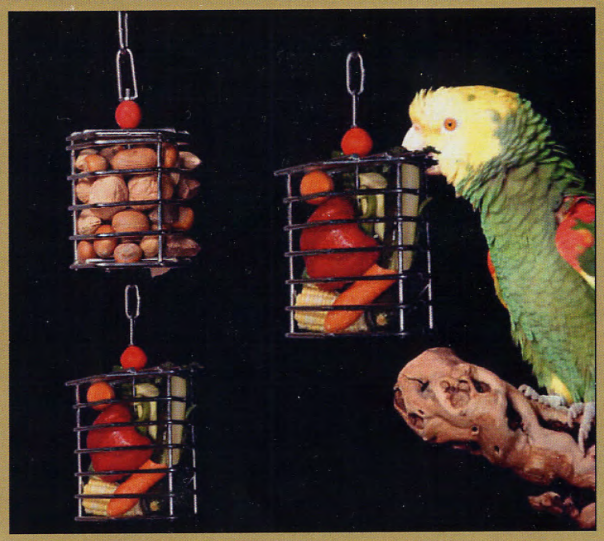
Capsule

Wheel

To learn more about captive foraging visit **www.creativeforagingsystems.com**.

This brochure is part of the Companion Bird Educational Series. Published on a grant from **Caitec Corp, 2900 Indiana St. Baltimore MD.**

Unraveling the mysteries of captive foraging



What is food foraging behavior?

Foraging is the instinctive behavior of searching for and obtaining food... All animals must forage for food in order to survive, grow to maturity, reproduce and raise young. In their natural environment birds spend 50 to 70 percent of the daylight hours foraging; this may include traveling to and from preferred patch locations, defining resources, climbing and accessing a resource, manipulating and preparing the resource for consumption. The demands of food acquisition impose significant challenges to both the physiology and behavior of birds Efficient foraging is a result of decisions regarding patch choice, patch exploitation strategy, selection of resources, and size of foraging flock (parrots are extremely social and generally live and travel in large groups or flocks) these interactions within the environment are not only mentally stimulating but also require a tremendous amount of vigorous physical exercise.