

Feb 29, 2024

Digging Test

DOI

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bp2l6xj3zlqe/v1>

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Protocol Citation: sdwalto , Jeffrey Kordower, Bryan_Killinger 2024. Digging Test. protocols.io
<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bp2l6xj3zlqe/v1>

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

Created: February 29, 2024



Last Modified: June 01, 2024

Protocol Integer ID: 95896

Keywords: ASAPCRN, mice behavior, digging test, olfaction, digging test, test, olfactory impairment, mice, olfaction impairment

Funders Acknowledgements:

Jeffrey Kordower

Grant ID: NIH R21 NS109871

Abstract

Digging test optimized for mice. This is a test to assess olfaction impairment. The more olfactory impairment or deficits, the longer it will take to find the sweetened treat.

Guidelines

Note: If the treat was found within 5 mins, the animal was allowed to eat it.

Materials

- clean mouse cage
- clean bedding
- sweetened cereal. (Cinnamon Toast Crunch)
- stopwatch



- 1 Fast mice overnight (Do not exceed 24 hours).
- 2 Prepare a clean mouse cage filled with 3 cm of bedding.
- 3 Prepare an appetitive stimulus of sweetened cereal. Cinnamon Toast Crunch was used here.
- 4 Bury cereal piece 0.5 cm below the bedding along the perimeter of the cage.
- 5 Monitor the mouse for 5 mins or until they find the treat. Time was recorded until the treat was found. If treat was not found by the end of 5 mins, mouse does not get the treat.
- 6 Replace the bedding and repeat for each mouse.