

Anabel Henriquez
Junior Division Animal Sciences
At What Temperature Do Dogs Prefer Their Food?

The purpose of this experiment is to find out whether or not dogs like hot, room temperature, or cold food by measuring how much food they eat. These measurements should also show how the temperature of the food a dog is served affects its appetite. This topic was also chosen to determine the best way to prepare a dogs food. To begin, put food into three identical bowls. Then wrap the food in plastic wrap. Feed the dog the same time every day. First meal of the day is recommended. Put food into microwave for about 30 seconds and check temperature with thermometer in Fahrenheit. Food at 98.8 degrees Fahrenheit is safe for dogs to eat. Serve one bowl of food at room temperature. Serve the cold food from the refrigerator. (Put the food in the refrigerator the night before so that in the morning or the next day the food will be ready for testing.) Then put the three dishes the length of a 12” ruler apart. Let the dog eat for approximately fifteen minutes. After the fifteen minutes are over, weigh each dish and record the data in ounces. Finally, graph your results and repeat the experiment five times. The conclusion to the results is that the hot food was the temperature that the dogs preferred the most out of all the dishes. Immediately after we had let the testing begin the dogs had gone straight to the hot food dish, ignoring the other two dishes.