

Home EDUCATOR DAY

- Suggested activities

Q&A PREPARATION:

We will be holding a question and answer session with our keepers during our home educator day, start to plan what questions you would like to ask them! It can be anything from their favourite animal to the hardest task in their day.



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A KEEPER:

During your visit, make a note of all the tasks you see the keepers completing, try to include as much information as possible, remember, you can also ask them questions during our Q&A session. Use all of this information to create a diary entry from a keepers perspective. You can present this in any form you prefer. For example, you could create a time stamped list of their tasks through the day, or a detailed account with lots of description.



ENRICHMENT DESIGN:

An important job for our keepers is creating enrichment. Enrichment is what we use to help mentally and physically stimulate our animals, to encourage them to use their natural behaviours. There are five types of enrichment, they are: cognitive, food presentation, social, environmental and sensory. Below is an example of some enrichment given to Dragan, our Amur tiger.



What is the enrichment?

- Barrel made of hard plastic
- Contains meat
- Perfume sprayed on the outside of the barrel

Imagining you are a keeper, create a persuasive justification to explain how you feel this enrichment will benefit Dragan, behaviours you hope to see after giving it to him and how you made sure it was safe for him. Remember - if you aren't sure, you can speak to any of the education team on the day, or why not ask a question during our keeper Q&A?

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THE 5 DOMAINS:

The welfare of our animals is always at the front of our keepers minds. The Five Domains provides a comprehensive and structured way of considering the wellbeing of an individual or group of animals in a particular situation, with a strong focus on positive mental experiences. These 5 domains aren't just for zoo animals, they are also vitally important for our pets. When it comes to our animals at home, they are more commonly referred to as the 5 welfare needs. Try to match the welfare need with the description below:

Health

A suitable _____. This can include feeding appropriately for the pet's life stage and feeding a suitable amount to prevent obesity or malnourishment, as well as access to fresh clean water.

Behaviour

To be housed with, or apart from, other animals as appropriate for the species. i.e. company of their own kind for sociable species like rabbits or guinea pigs, or to be housed alone for solitary species like hamsters.

Environment

A suitable _____. This should include the right type of home with a comfortable place to rest and hide as well as space to exercise and explore.

Diet

The ability to behave naturally for their species eg. Play, run, dig, jump, fly etc.

Companionship

Protection from pain, injury, suffering and disease and treated if they become ill or injured

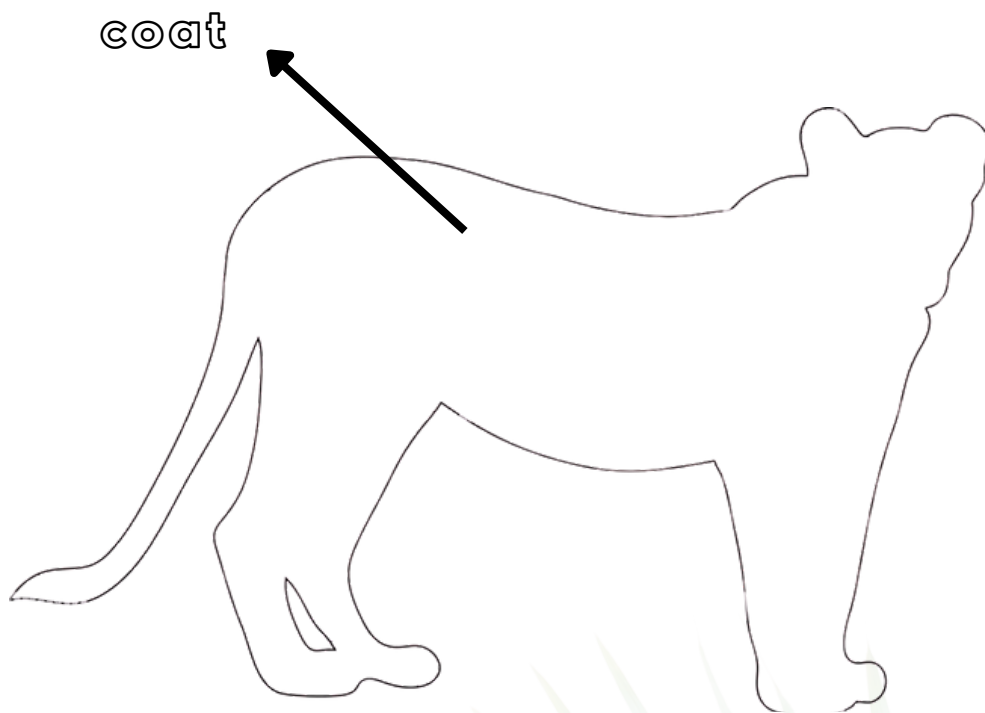
Think like a keeper, are you meeting all of these welfare needs for your pets at home?
What are you doing well? What can you improve for your animal/s? - How?

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ANIMAL HEALTH CHECKING:

An important element of a keepers role is health checking the animals they work with. You can learn more about health checking within our workshops and drop-in activities throughout the home educator day. Label the lioness with the parts of the animal you need to look at when conducting a thorough health check. We have done the first one for you...



We would absolutely love to see any work completed after and inspired by our Home Educator day
- please feel free to send any work to: education@dartmoorzoo.co.uk if you would like us to see it

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ANIMAL DIETS:

Tigers are carnivores and need this meat to stay healthy and meet their nutritional needs. On a Tuesday, Dragan is given 3kg of meat, which is made up of approximately 20% protein and 10% fats. The rest is mostly water, what percentage of the meat is water? How many grams of protein is in this meal?



Our geladas are given 4kg of food per day. Create a diet for them from the items below.

- 100g of Pellet = 12g of fibre
- 1kg of hay = 460g of fibre
- 100g of carrot = 1g of fibre
- 500g of fresh grass = 50g of fibre
- 100g of cabbage = 14g of fibre
- 100g of sweetcorn = 10g of fibre

Extension: Geladas are grass eaters so try and make the diet as natural as possible. They should have 1 - 1.5kg of fibre and no more than 300g of pellet.



Carrots cost £0.60 per 6 carrots
Locusts cost £12.49 per 100 locusts
Cabbage cost £0.80 per cabbage
Pig pellet cost £12.50 per 25kg
Apples cost £1 for 5 apples

For their morning feed, one peccary eats 2 carrots, 1 cabbage, 1 apple and 1 kg of pig pellet. How much does it cost to feed one peccary their breakfast? How much does it cost to feed all 5 for breakfast? How much does a weeks worth of peccary breakfasts cost?

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