

Learning Session

Animal Behaviour

Year

Learning Outcome + Session Outline

Curriculum Links

9-10

- ✓ Give examples of how natural behaviour is encouraged.
- ✓ Explain how we use behavioural training to take care of Zoo animals.

Students will examine how habitats are designed to encourage natural behaviours of the animals in our care. Through guided observations, students will discuss the role of enrichment in encouraging natural behaviours. In addition, students will discover the answer to popular questions like, "How do you introduce animals?" and "How do you do a health check on a Sun Bear?"

Living World, Level 4: Life processes:

Recognise that there are life processes common to all living things and that these occur in different ways.

11-12

- ✓ Identify and explain how animals' behaviours influence their ways of life.
- ✓ Discuss how behavioural adaptations enable animals to occupy an environmental niche.

How animals' behaviours help them survive? Do they work together or go it alone? Explore the ways animals' behaviour, intraspecific and interspecific relationships and response to environmental factors help them survive in an ecological niche.

Living World, Level 6&7: Life processes:

Relate key structural features and functions to the life processes of plants, animals, and micro-organisms and investigate environmental factors that affect these processes.

Explore the diverse ways in which animals and plants carry out life processes.

Related NCEA Standards:

Science 1.10 AS90949: Investigate life processes and environmental factors that affect them.

Biology 2.3 AS91155: Demonstrate understanding of adaptation of plants and animals to their way of life.

13

- ✓ Identify and explain how animals' behaviours influence their ways of life.
- ✓ Discuss how behavioural adaptations enable animals to occupy an environmental niche.

Can you speak Capuchin? Is that Monkey angry or hungry? Through guided observations, students will explore the behaviours of animals at Wellington Zoo. We will investigate some strategies animals use to find and defend resources, different ways of communicating and building relationships, how they reproduce and care for young; as well as strategies to avoid predators. With support, the students will be encouraged to discuss the advantages or disadvantages of the behavioural strategies they have observed.

Related NCEA Standards:

Biology Level 3 AS91603: Demonstrate understanding of the responses of plants and animals to their external environment.

Living World, Level 8: Life processes, ecology and evolution:

Understand the relationship between organisms and their environment. Explore the evolutionary processes that have resulted in the diversity of life on Earth and appreciate the place and impact of humans within these processes.

