

Enclosure Design WORKSHOP

In modern Zoos, the psychological welfare of your animals is of great importance. If animals are not looked after well, or do not have suitable enclosures, this can lead to stereotypical behaviours.

What are stereotypical behaviours?



Why don't we want stereotypical behaviours in a Zoo?

How can we prevent stereotypical behaviours starting?

Enclosure Design

Good enclosure design is essential for the welfare of captive animals. All captive species should have enough space to: feed, sleep, reproduce, play and get away from the public eye.

Below are some poorly designed enclosures. What are they lacking and how are they NOT meeting the needs of the animal?



Polar Bears



Alligator



Lions

Enclosure Design

Enclosure should be a suitable environment which provides for all the animal's needs through all stages of their growth and development.

What do you think enclosures should contain?

Enclosure designs are different for every animal as different animals have different needs. How might animals differ in their needs and requirements?

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How would a leopard enclosure and a lion enclosure differ?



Male lions sometimes dislike the company of young cubs. How would this effect the design of the enclosure?



Enclosure Design

When designing an enclosure, not only do we need to think about what animal we are going to house, we also need to think about HOW MANY we are to house in that one enclosure.

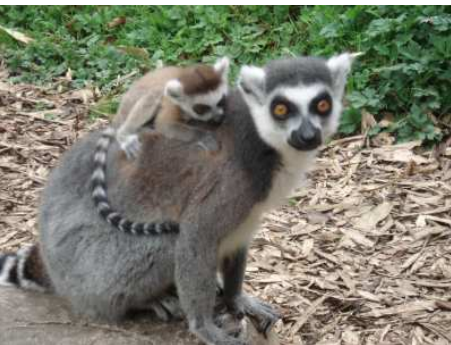
What could happen if enclosures were too small for all individuals?

Some animals can be kept in small enclosures with many other individuals. What type of animals do you think these are?

Chimpanzee Birds Insects

The main aim of enclosure design is to create an environment which is similar to the habitat the animal is adapted to. It is therefore important to incorporate different substrates and fittings into each enclosure. What would you include in an enclosure for a:

Meerkat



Lemur

Iguana



Enclosure Design

Below are some enclosures at Colchester Zoo.

How does the design of the enclosure and accompanying substrates meet the needs of the animal?



Amur Tigers



Mangabeys



Chimpanzee (inside)



Elephants
