

Animal Careers

What careers are out there and what is involved?

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the session:

- ✓ **All students** will know there are a variety of job roles and a number of different options on how to gain experience and qualifications
- ✓ **Most students** will understand how to gain the skills required and how this can be used to aid career progression
- ✓ **Some students** will be able to visualise specific career paths to their desired role

Session Outline:

The session looks at four roles within the zoo animal industry: animal keeper, educator, scientist and conservationist. The roles, qualifications and skills needed for each job role and how to obtain them are examined, as well as where to look for such jobs. The session then focuses on the role of an animal keeper and a wildlife ranger. For each of these roles there are recorded interviews with Colchester Zoo staff talking about the journey they took to get to their current position. Work experience and volunteering at the Zoo are then discussed including how they can assist in career progression. The talk then looks at the possible qualifications available at college, with a look at the requirements and the different paths there are to get a level 3 animal related qualification, as well as earn while you learn qualifications that are available.

