

Animal Restraint

What are the considerations when needing to restrain an animal?

Animal Care

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the session:

- ✓ All students will understand the variety of animal restraint methods.
- ✓ Most students will understand specific equipment required depending on species.
- ✓ Some students will recognise the different factors which can dictate the best method of restraint.

Session Outline:

The session starts with a look at the two main methods of restraint (physical restraint and chemical immobilisations), reasons why animals are restrained, factors to consider, general guidelines and points to remember. The session then focuses on physical restraint, with specifics of different methods and equipment. Hand restraint covered in general before moving onto specifics of bird restraint. A case study of a flamingo catch up is used to highlight how to restrain individuals when working with a group of animals as well as methods to handle flamingos. Chemical immobilisation is then looked at with using a video of an elephant sedation to highlight the process and reinforce points to remember and considerations when using chemicals. The session then covers the pros and cons of the two methods of restraint already discussed by asking the students their thoughts on a number of examples. The final part looks at how training can remove the need to restrain animal while allowing for basic health checks (dental checks, foot care, weighing, etc.). The second half of the session involves a tour of the zoo with real-world examples of aspects covered in class, and the opportunity to ask questions to qualified animal keepers.



Key Points Covered:

- Physical restraint
- Chemical restraint
- Crush cage
- Non-contact
- Training wall
- Injection training
- Crate training