

# Post 16 Animal Behaviour Conference



## Session Description

This half day conference designed for AS/A-Level students focuses on types of behaviour (both innate and acquired) and gives examples of how and why they are displayed by animals. Together we will look at classical and operant conditioning and mention examples of where conditioning is used here at Marwell Zoo, as part of training to assist with animal welfare. Included is an opportunity to conduct a brief animal study with one of our live animals in the classroom.

The students are then free to carry out their own comparative behaviour study in the park with animals of their choice. This is then followed by a feedback session where the group present their findings in the afternoon.

## Session Objectives

Be able to describe what behaviour is and why certain types are displayed.  
Consider the criteria for developing a reliable behaviour study and identify any limitations of the methods used.  
Create and carry out a comparative behaviour study using animals within the zoo and feedback findings to the group.

## Curriculum Links- AQA Psychology

Specification A

- BTEC Extended Diploma Animal Management - Year
- 1: Animal behaviour and communication
- Edexcel AS Psychology
- OCR A level Biology
- OCR AS Psychology
- IB Psychology

## Linked Resources

[Animal behaviour booklet Conference information](#)  
[Enrichment trail/answers](#)

## Key Skills

During this conference students have the opportunity to practice observation, record taking, investigative and communication skills.



**Marwell  
Wildlife**