

Post 16 Animal Behaviour Conference



Session Description

Focused on animal behaviour (both innate and acquired), this conference starts with a formal lecture in our Science and Learning Centre to build student understanding of how and why behaviours are displayed; and the importance of recognising and monitoring animal behaviour for captive animal management and wild animal conservation.

After a short break we head out in to the zoo to conduct a brief animal study which is used to facilitate a discussion about design issues, operationalisation and reliability. After which the students are free to carry out their own independent comparative behaviour study in the park with animals of their choice.

The final session, conducted within our giraffe talk area, provides opportunity for students to present and discuss their findings and explore their limitations. As well as facilitating further discussion on how we use behaviour studies to monitor and enhance our animals' wellbeing.

Session Objectives

Be able to describe what behaviour is and why certain behaviour 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.

Specification Links

AQA Psychology (2019) AS 3.2, A 4.2

- BTEC Nationals (2018)

Animal Management Unit 5. Animal behaviour

- Edexcel AS/A level Psychology (2017)

Topic 4: Learning Theories

OCR AS/A level Psychology (2015) component 02

IB Psychology (2019) Core



**Marwell
Wildlife**

Key Skills

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