

Post 16 Animal Behaviour Conference



Session Description

Focused on animal behaviour, this conference starts with a pilot study observation which informs the follow up discussion about animal study operationalisation and inter rater reliability.

The lecture based taught session leads on from this initial introduction to develop student's understanding of behaviour theories and observation methods in preparation for their independent activity out in the zoo. Using real life case studies, students are introduced to the importance of observational studies for recognising and monitoring animal behaviour for captive animal management and wild animal conservation. Students then carry out their own behaviour study using any of the viewable species out in the zoo, returning to analyse and present their findings.

The final session, explores the strengths and limitations of student's independent studies. As well as facilitating further discussion on how Marwell uses similar observational behaviour studies in order to monitor and enhance animal 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.