



Session Description

This practical session is designed for GCSE level students. The session starts in our lecture theatre where we discuss types of animal behaviours (both innate and acquired) providing examples of how and why these are displayed in animals.

Together we look at time and event sampling and discuss examples of how these studies are used by Marwell to monitor animal welfare and support conservation.

In groups of 3 or 4, students then conduct observational studies out in the zoo (focusing on either our Grevy's or Hartman's zebras) in order to compare the two methods of data collection. The session concludes with a feedback session where groups discuss findings and possible limitations.

This session may also be appropriate for more able KS3 classes.

Session Objectives

Be able to describe what behaviour is and why certain types are displayed.

Carry out and draw conclusions from guided behaviour studies using animals within the park.

Be able to communicate observational study findings to the group.

Curriculum Links

Links to GCSE Biology HSW and GCSE Psychology unit 2.

Animal Care/Animal Management BTEC and T-level qualifications

Key skills: observation, data collection and record taking, investigation and communication.

