



Australian Government

ACMGAS302 Provide enrichment for animals

Release: 1

ACMGAS302 Provide enrichment for animals

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide behavioural management and enrichment to stimulate, replenish and maintain appropriate behavioural patterns of animals.

The unit applies to individuals working under supervision in the animal care industry where it may be necessary to provide enrichment activities for animals. The animals may be housed long-term in an animal care facility, being raised or prepared for sale, or rehoused prior to release into their native habitat.

No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication.

NOTE: The terms ‘occupational health and safety’ (OHS) and ‘work health and safety’ (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

General Animal Studies (GAS)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Observe and record animal behaviour	1.1 Observe and record behaviour of individual animals and groups of animals according to organisational policies and procedures

Element	Performance Criteria
	1.2 Compare observed behaviour with known normal behavioural patterns for a range of species 1.3 Identify and encourage natural behaviour 1.4 Recognise and record signs of stress and determine possible stressors 1.5 Report abnormal behaviour indicating less than optimum physical and behavioural wellbeing to supervisor
2. Assist with managing undesirable animal behaviour	2.1 Participate in the development and implementation of a long-term strategy to manage undesirable behaviour 2.2 Conduct short-term management of animals exhibiting undesirable behaviour 2.3 Comply with animal welfare and WHS requirements during behavioural management processes
3. Implement enrichment programs	3.1 Determine, apply and evaluate physical, social and food-related enrichment strategies, appropriate to the species and according to organisational policies and procedures 3.2 Research and assess adverse consequences to an enrichment strategy 3.3 Clean, decontaminate and dispose of or replace used enrichment items appropriately 3.4 Implement enrichment strategy appropriate to the species according to organisational policies and procedures 3.5 Document and record responses to enrichment strategy 3.6 Review enrichment program modification suggestions in consultation with supervisor, and implement and document where appropriate

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Get the work done	• Problem-solve issues with managing animal behaviour as they arise

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGAS302 Provide enrichment for animals	ACMGAS302A Provide enrichment for animals	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages	Equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>

Assessment Requirements for ACMGAS302 Provide enrichment for animals

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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- observed, recorded and reported normal and abnormal behaviour patterns and conditions for two different animals
- provided behavioural management and/or enrichment programs for a minimum of three animals, covering two different species.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- strategies to encourage natural behaviour, including activities and equipment:
 - to encourage foraging or hunting for food appropriate for species
 - to provide exercise and physical fitness and dexterity relevant to animal species
 - to provide opportunities to live and socialise in an environment appropriate for particular species
 - to rest, hide or shelter in appropriate housing
 - to reinforce the role of owner or handler in an appropriate context for the nominated species
- signs of stress:
 - aggressive behaviour
 - destruction of equipment or habitat
 - inappetence
 - over-stimulation of animal
 - repetitive actions
 - self-mutilation
 - subdued behaviour

- trembling
- vocalisation
- abnormal behaviours, including:
 - exaggerated forms of a normal behaviour
 - repetitive patterns or actions
 - stationary, non-purposeful movements
- strategies to manage undesirable animal behaviours, including:
 - consulting behaviour specialists
 - food or food-related enrichment
 - providing equipment to encourage appropriate exercise
 - providing equipment and toys for skill development and time occupiers
 - providing species-appropriate housing and bedding
 - nest building or bedding material
 - social enrichment
- safe and humane animal handling techniques
- the milestones in developmental progress from newborn to mature animals
- WHS and animal welfare legislative requirements and codes of practice.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an environment that accurately reflects a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of real animals
 - equipment and resources appropriate to work undertaken in an animal care environment
- specifications:
 - access to organisational policies and procedures
 - current WHS and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - interactions with supervisor.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

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