



Further & Higher Education

HEALTH & WELFARE

General points about this talk:

Talks generally last 30-40 minutes and take place out in the Park in all weathers; please ensure students wear suitable clothes for the conditions.

Talks are generally led by the keepers and may vary between different staff members. We will adapt this talk according to the age of students.

We endeavour to keep group sizes below 20 students.

What we will cover in the talk:

An animal's health and welfare is of the utmost importance in a zoo. Many measures are carried out to ensure the animals remain healthy and if an animal is unwell that it is identified quickly and that the right medical help is delivered. As well as this, measures are constantly being monitored and improved to ensure that the animals welfare is good and that it continually being improved.

In our health and welfare talk we will take a look at some of the animals we have here at the park and discuss how their health and welfare is maintained, monitored and improved. We will discuss the routine measures to monitor the health of the animals as well as the daily checks done by the keepers. We will also talk about measures to help stop diseases and their spread such as quarantine procedures.

Animals and plants we may include: We cannot guarantee which animals you will see during your talk but you will visit at least four animals which may include some of the following:

Humboldt penguin	Black-tailed prairie dog	Asiatic lion
Slender-tailed meerkat	Brazilian Tapir	Bactrian camel
Asian short-clawed otter	Anteater	White rhino
Common squirrel monkey	Linne's two-toed sloth	Giraffe
Azara's agouti	Wolverine	Capybara
Aldabra giant tortoise	Snowy owl	



Areas of the City and Guilds Animal Care Specification that this talk addresses:

Level 2

Unit 213 – Introduction to Caring for Zoo Animals

Outcome 4 – Know the signs of health and disease in zoo animal species:

- Physical and behavioural features – coat, scales, feathers, eyes, ears, nose, skin, mucous membranes and genitalia, physical movement and locomotion, appetite, thirst, faecal and urinary output and sign of grooming
- Disease – behavioural traits that are indicative of normality and abnormality, the role of bacteria, viruses and fungi as agents of disease and the symptoms (and the development of these) of specific health problems and nutritional triggers of disease
- Zoonotic and notifiable diseases – define zoonoses and notifiable diseases and their impact on animal wellbeing and bio security of animal collections, statutory prevention and control of example diseases
- Monitored and treated – use of faecal and blood screening and testing as modes of disease monitoring, role of antibiotic therapy, use of saline, microbial testing in treatment of disease

Level 3

Unit 318 – Understand the Principles of Zoological Animal Health and Husbandry

Outcome 3 – Understand the importance of health and welfare of zoo animals:

- Signs of good and poor health – condition of coat/skin/feathers/scales, locomotion and gait, feeding, drinking and excreting patterns, weight change and normal behaviour changes (as individuals or within groups)
- Causes of disease – pathogenic causes (bacterial, viral, fungal or parasitic), physical trauma leading to secondary infection, malnutrition, deficiency or poisoning
- Preventative and control strategies – vaccination, quarantine, routine blood/faecal testing and screening, elimination/trapping of vectors, use of physical barriers to isolate/exclude and use of antibiotic, antiviral, anthelmintic, fungicidal treatment/therapy
- Activities which enhance the welfare – enrichment, socialisation and group structures, health monitoring and assessment, environmental assessment and appropriate enclosure design

