The Value of Enrichment

Naomi Webster – Training and Conferences Manager, BCT

Opportunity to learn from zoos as zoo animals are comparable with long-term captive bats (enrichment is not relevant for short-term captives)

Environmental Enrichment

• Enrichment is a dynamic process for enhancing animal environments within the context of the animals' behavioral biology and natural history. Environmental changes are made with the goal of increasing the animal's behavioral choices and drawing out their species-appropriate behaviors, thus enhancing animal welfare

1999 AZA Behavior Scientific Advisory Group

Animal Welfare Measures

Five Freedoms:

- Freedom from hunger and thirst
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury or disease
- Freedom to express normal behaviour
- Freedom from fear and distress

Originally developed for the farm animals. Can also consider five further freedoms suggested by Jon Coe:

- Freedom to Achieve Competence:
- Freedom to Have Choice:
- Freedom to Take Control:
- Freedom to Experience Variety
- Freedom to Engage Complexity

www.zoolex.org/publication/coe/2017 Environmental Enrichment for Designers.pdf

British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquaria consider the following measures of animal welfare:

- Physical health
- Mental health
- Social life
- Enclosure design
- Environmental enrichment

www.biaza.org.uk/animal-welfare

How it can help

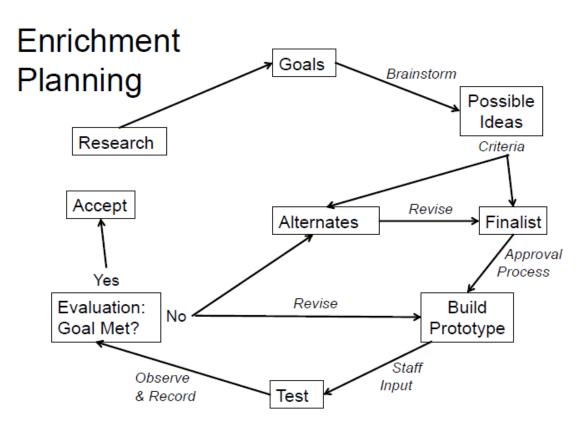
A veterinary assessment of the risks and benefits of environmental enrichment A Duncan, 1997 www.enrichment.org/MiniWebs/About EE/duncan 1997.pdf

Planning Enrichment

BIAZA partner – The Shape of Enrichment

- Environmental enrichment plans should be:
 - Holistic considering all aspects of an animal's environment: Social,
 Cognitive, Physical, Sensory, and Food
 - Goal-driven (general or specific, result in one or many forms of enrichment to achieve goal)
 - Assessed (initially and periodically, where necessary modified)

http://www.enrichment.org/MiniWebs/About EE/planning chart.pdf



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SPIDER approach

http://www.animalenrichment.org/spider/

- Setting goals
- Planning
- Implementation
- Documentation
- Evaluation
- Re-adjustment

Jersey Zoo Bat Enclosure

www.durrell.org/wildlife/news/best-bat-house-around-world-first-worlds-rarest-bat/

Sharing ideas / successes / learning opportunities

http://www.enrichment.org/Safety.php

Welcome to The Shape of Enrichment's Safety Database!

New Database Search		
Taxa	Find	Hazard
Mammal: Bat	(all)	(all)
Found 0 entries		

By sharing our ideas, successes and learning opportunities we can help each other and improve the welfare of bats in captivity long-term