Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0.
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

ACMGAS302	Provide enrichment for animals
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, particularly those housed long-term in an animal care facility. The unit applies to individuals working in the animal care industry where it may be necessary to provide enrichment activities for animals. They work under broad direction, typically in a team environment, and are required to take responsibility for their own work including, carrying out assigned tasks, organising processes, and working to schedules. All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace. No licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication.
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	General Animal Studies (GAS)

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	*Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.*
1. Observe and record animal behaviour	1.1 Observe and record behaviour of individual animals and groups of animals according to workplace policies and procedures 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 maladaptive or undesirable behaviour indicating less than optimum physical and mental 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 health and safety requirements during behavioural management processes

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	*Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.*
3. Implement enrichment programs	3.1 Determine, apply and evaluate physical, social and food-related enrichment strategies, appropriate to the species and according to workplace policies and procedures 3.2 Identify and assess adverse consequences to an enrichment strategy, including risks associated with equipment 3.3 Clean, decontaminate and dispose of or replace used enrichment items appropriately 3.4 Implement enrichment strategy appropriate to the species according to workplace 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
Reading	• Interpret key requirements of workplace policies and procedures, relevant to work role, for training and conditioning different animals and species
Writing	• Use biological and industry terminology when completing records
Oral communication	• Determine enrichment program and modification suggestions with relevant personnel through open-ended questioning, active listening, paraphrasing and summarising
Numeracy	• Calculate volume, weight, area, ratio, time and application rates • Interpret numerical information provided with dog grooming products and equipment

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGAS302 Provide enrichment for animals	ACMGAS302 Provide enrichment for animals	Minor changes to performance criteria for clarity Changes to assessment requirements	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

TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMGAS302 Provide enrichment for animals

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 maladaptive or undesirable behaviour patterns and conditions for two different animals
- provided behavioural management and/or enrichment programs for at least two animals, covering different species, life-cycle stage or behavioural requirement.

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 proprioception 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 or mental/emotional states, including:
    - avoidance
    - displacement
    - aggression
    - repetitive actions
- maladaptive or undesirable behaviours relevant to species, including:
    - exaggerated forms of a normal behaviour
    - stereotypies
- strategies to manage undesirable animal behaviours, including:
    - consulting veterinary behaviourist or veterinarian
    - food or food-related enrichment
    - providing equipment to encourage appropriate exercise/proprioception
    - 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
- species-specific milestones in developmental progress from newborn to mature animal
- workplace policies and procedures relevant to providing enrichment to animals including, health and safety and animal welfare.

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 workplace policies and procedures relevant to providing enrichment to animals including, health and safety and animal welfare
- relationships:
    - supervisor.

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

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