

Modification history

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

ACMNEW3X4	Identify behaviours and interact safely with animals
Application	<p>This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to identify and interpret behaviour and safely handle, interact and respond to animals in a range of animal care facilities and environments. It can be applied to a range of animal species.</p> <p>This unit applies to individuals who are required to handle and interact with animals in close proximity in an animal care workplace. They work independently and take responsibility for the quality their own work, including carrying out assigned tasks, selecting products and techniques and working to required timeframes.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Companion Animal Sector (CAS) / General Animal Services (GAS)?

Commented [SH1]: Stakeholder feedback is sought on a suggestion to change behaviour to emotional states in the title (i.e. Interpret emotional states and interact safely with animals).

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare for interaction with animal	1.1 Establish a safe and secure environment for interacting with animals according to workplace policies and procedures 1.2 Obtain information on the animal from workplace records or carer briefing to inform approach to animal 1.3 Identify hazards and minimise risks to self, other people and animals 1.4 Select and correctly fit personal protective equipment appropriate for animal and interaction 1.5 Prepare equipment for securing the animal lift required
2. Identify and interpret animal behaviour	2.1 Identify animal by species and/or breed and physical characteristics 2.2 Recognise common behavioural traits for the species or breed 2.3 Observe animal body language and other signs to interpret the animal's likely emotional state 2.4 Identify species-specific behaviours that pose potential safety risks
3. Move animal safely and securely	3.1 Check other animals are safe and secure prior to moving animals 3.2 Approach and move around animal in a calm and non-threatening manner 3.3 Move animal or remove from enclosure using low stress handling techniques 3.4 Secure animal safely in suitable environment using humane restraints, if required, according to workplace requirements 3.5 Prepare and load animal for transport, where required, ensuring safe restraints or housing according to species and workplace requirements 3.5 Manage challenging behaviours humanely

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Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
4. Handle animals for intended activity	4.1 Use species-appropriate techniques and equipment to secure, position and control animal movement in close proximity 4.2 Adjust handling based on situation, individual animal and its responses to being handled 4.3 Undertake intended activity ensuring personal and animal safety 4.4 Provide feedback on animal behaviour and handling to relevant personnel according to workplace procedures 4.7 Update records for animal in workplace record keeping system

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurately interpret information from documents related to species and/or breed and physical characteristics and behaviour
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use industry terminology when completing records
Oral communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review animal behaviour with relevant personnel using language and concepts appropriate to audience Use questioning and active listening to confirm and clarify understanding
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimate and calculate volume, weight, area, ratio, time

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMNEW3X4 Identify behaviours and interact safely with animals	Not applicable	New unit	No 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
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TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMNEW3X4 Identify behaviours and interact safely with animals
Performance Evidence	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identified and interpreted common animal behaviour, including body language and likely emotional states for one of the following combinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two different species • two different breeds of the same species • two animals at different life stages - young, adult or senior • used safe and humane handling techniques and equipment to interact with, restrain, move and/or handled three different animals to carry out an activity in close proximity, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one animal requiring two people to manually lift or move • one animal to be handled (lifted/moved) independently • one small/fragile animal to be handled or moved. 	
Knowledge Evidence	
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to identify animals by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • species and/or breed • physical characteristics, including colour and sex • common species-specific behaviour traits, including factors that influence behaviour, including genetics, health, environment and past experiences • species-specific body language and signs, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • posture and position of body parts • vocalisation (where relevant to species) • how to recognise and respond to common behaviours indicating negative emotional states • carer-animal relationship and its effect on the animal's behaviour • basic concepts for influencing or directing animal movement, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • body positioning • clear instruction or cues • species-specific holding or restraint techniques • use of positive behaviour modification • flight zone, pressure zone and point of balance • safe and humane species-specific handling techniques and equipment • hazards and risks associated with handling and interacting with animals, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • injuries - bites and scratches • infectious diseases and zoonoses • common activities undertaken in animal care sectors, including for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health and hygiene • grooming • medical procedures • manual lifting/moving of animals • key principles of animal welfare and ethics relevant to handling and interacting with animals • key requirements of relevant legislation for work undertaken in animal care environments. 	
Assessment Conditions	
<p>Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions • resources, equipment and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access to live animals as specified in the performance evidence 	

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Assessment Conditions

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• equipment and resources appropriate to work being undertaken in an animal care environment, including personal protective equipment |
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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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Links

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