
The intent of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe an appropriate environmental enrichment program for non-human primates (NHPs).

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Facility Animal Care Committees (FACC), veterinarian, principal investigators (PIs), animal care staff

3. PROCEDURES

- 3.1. The purpose of environmental enrichment is to provide non-human primates with opportunities to express basic behavior needs, to promote species-typical, non-injurious, behavior and to promote physical and mental health thus enhancing animal welfare. The environmental enrichment should be biologically relevant (i.e.: hiding, socializing, searching) so that it does not lose its enriching value over time.
- 3.2. Social Contact:
 - 3.2.1. Pair or group house non-human primates.
 - 3.2.2. Non-human primates may be singly housed with strong scientific, welfare, or medical justification:
 - 3.2.2.1. Incompatibility
 - 3.2.2.2. Medical reasons
 - 3.2.2.3. Specific protocol approved by FACC
 - 3.2.3. At a minimum, primates must be able to have visual, olfactory, and auditory interaction with conspecifics.
- 3.3. Housing System:
 - 3.3.1. Animals should be housed with the goal of maximizing species-specific behaviors, minimizing stress-induced behaviors, providing opportunity for social contact and locomotor (e.g., walking, climbing, leaping) and sleep in a normal manner. Cages should be of a sufficient size and complexity to allow primates to be housed in appropriately sized groups and to perform behaviors important to their welfare.
 - 3.3.2. House non-human primates preferably in cages favoring higher vertical spaces, maximizing the use of the cage volume with perches, swings, ropes, platforms, nests, etc.

3.5.3. Objects provided should link to strong natural behaviors, such as eating, foraging, grooming, or locomotion and postural movements.

3.6. Other environmental enrichment items:

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