



Living Collections Assistant – Presentations (Seasonal)

Directorate: Operations

Location: WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre

Reporting to: Living Collections Supervisor – Bird Demonstrations and Mammals

Grade: 5

Main function of post: To assist in the development and delivery of WWT Slimbridge's engaging animal presentations and demonstrations.

Supervisory responsibilities: Centre volunteers and placement

Main duties of the post

- To assist with the detailed management of all animals and areas within the Living Wetland Theatre and mammal collection; to include feeding, cleaning, behaviour management and training and exhibit maintenance.
- To ensure that the health of the living collection within the section is of the highest standard in collaboration with the veterinary team, including health monitoring and maintaining isolation and quarantine facilities.
- To assist in the training and husbandry needs of the demonstration birds by following existing training programs and maintaining behaviour management records.
- To assist in the maintenance of Zims records, daily counts and monitoring and recording behaviour.
- To ensure scrupulous hygiene standards are practised and maintained in all feed preparation, quarantine and isolation facilities.
- To present animal engagement opportunities across the centre including, but not limited to, our bird demonstrations and otter exhibit.
- To be responsible for working within the WWT health and safety policy and guidelines ensuring that the health, safety and wellbeing of yourself and others is an integral part of how you work.

- To assist with general duties in other sections of the presentations team and wider living collections team where required.
- To be responsible for engaging with the WWT Sustainability Statement, being aware of negative environmental impacts and incorporating sustainable ways of working within your role.
- To interact with our visitors and supporters in a positive way, shaping unforgettable experiences and helping them understand and connect to wetlands.

In addition to the duties and responsibilities listed, the post holder is required to perform any other reasonable duties that may be assigned by the supervisor shown above, from time to time.

Date raised: January 2018

Amended: January 2022

Person Specification

1. Qualifications

Essential:

- Level 3 qualification in an animal-related subject

Desirable:

- FdSc/BSc in zoology-related subject, preferably animal behavior based
- Full current driving license

2. Experience

Essential:

- Practical experience in presentations or public speaking
- Practical experience in working with animals
- Experience in care, feeding, husbandry and breeding of birds and/or mammals

Desirable:

- Previous experience in a zoo or visitor attraction
- Demonstrable skill and experience in animal training techniques
- Experience in customer relations, education, working with children or creative work
- Experience in a similar role would be an advantage

3. Managerial & Supervisory

Essential:

- To allocate basic tasks to volunteers and to supervise the undertaking of such tasks.

Type of staff	Number managed	Number supervised
Employed Staff	0	0
Volunteers / Casual Workers	0	1 - 10
Contractors	0	0

4. Responsibility

Essential:

- Responsible for the provision and maintenance of section exhibits
- Responsible for the health and welfare of Living Wetland Theatre and mammal stock in compliance with all relevant WWT policies and procedures
- Keep daily records and welfare checks adhering to our zoo license guidelines
- An ability to act independently but also as part of a team, especially during public demonstrations

Levels of Responsibility:

Type of Responsibility	Level (£'s)
Expenditure (exc. payroll)	£0
Cash Handling	£0
Assets (required for job, exc. buildings)	£10,000
Visitors (per annum)	£0

5. Creative Ability

Essential:

- Ability to originate ideas and bring creative thought to bear
- Following husbandry guidelines & care regimes including diet programs
- Required to be creative in delivering presentations to visitors and engaging all age groups
- Organise own work, resolving problems that arise and have a flexible approach to new challenges
- Establish and maintain husbandry training for designated animals
- An enthusiastic approach and a desire to pass on that enthusiasm

6. Contact

Essential:

- Excellent working relationship with the Living Collections Team
- Core visitor engagement with the general public on a daily basis
- Support other departments (e.g. education, marketing, facilities, administration & volunteers) with Centre promotion and engagement
- Specialist talks to a wide range of public, groups, schools and animal professionals

General Notes

This is a full-time position based at WWT Slimbridge, on a rota basis of 5 days within 7 to include weekends and bank/public holidays and occasional evenings. Your actual times of work will vary according to the needs of the business and your working rota will be notified to you by your Line Manager in advance.

Whilst this post is based at WWT Slimbridge, some travel may be necessary therefore a current driving licence is essential as is willingness to travel to other WWT Wetland Centres.