

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. Council on Animal Care (

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:

3.6.1. 3.3( n ) - 1 . 1 T c 0