



## RIU 3.6.3 Animal handling elements of competency

Ver 1 15 June 2023

### FISH

<b>Competency (Essential outcomes)</b>	<b>Performance criteria (The performance needed to demonstrate competency)</b>
<b>1. Observe and interpret basic fish body language</b>	<p>1.1 Distinguish a range of fish body language</p> <p>1.2 Recognise body language indicating a fish is relaxed in its surroundings</p> <p>1.3 Recognise body language indicating a fish is unsettled or in a state of agitation in its surroundings</p>
<b>2. Identify areas of risk around fish</b>	<p>2.1 Identify situations and behaviour that commonly lead to incidents and injuries when interacting with fish</p> <p>2.2 Recognise human body language and behaviour to avoid around fish</p> <p>2.3 Identify positive actions and behaviour that handlers can take to minimise risks when interacting with fish</p>
<b>3. Describe indications of health and variations to normal health and behaviour in fish</b>	<p>3.1 Describe normal health and behaviour of fish in terms of the signs (Range - movement, physical appearance, posture, appetite, general demeanour, social interaction)</p> <p>3.2 Describe variations to normal health and behaviour in terms of the signs, and appropriate action to be taken  (Range – movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, appetite, parasites, bacterial infections, fungal infections)</p> <p>3.3 Identify situations where isolation of fish is required</p>
<b>4. Maintain aquarium and equipment</b>	<p>4.1 Describe features of ideal aquaria according to species requirements.  (Range includes but is not limited to – materials, site, size, stocking capacity, water quality, thermometer, water pump, water filter, environmental enrichment)</p> <p>4.2 Describe environmental factors requiring monitoring according to species requirements</p>



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	(Range includes but is not limited to – water quality, water temperature, water oxygen content)
	4.3 Clean and maintain the aquarium and equipment according to species requirements
	(Range includes but is not limited to – water testing, partial water changes)
	4.4 Follow correct biosecurity procedures and prevent cross contamination
	4.5 Supply food to fish that is balanced and complete according to species/project requirements
<b>5. Catch, handle and transport fish</b>	5.1 Confirm plan with supervisor as required
	5.2 Locate and identify fish for capture
	5.3 Catch and move fish to designated areas using low stress techniques and carry out procedures with due care and in line with current university practice
	(Range – netting, restraining, transporting)
	5.4 Clean and maintain handling areas and equipment and store surplus materials
	5.5 Report handling area maintenance requirements and equipment faults or malfunctions
	5.6 Record and report relevant information