

## **Animal care: Notes on using this resource**

The following units are designed to provide information on the basic skills and knowledge required in order to care properly for a wide range of animals.

Each unit will focus on a different group of animals, and highlight the needs of species within a range of categories. Taken as a whole, this short course will effectively introduce the key aspects of animal care and demonstrate how to implement the necessary skills and knowledge in order to maintain health and wellbeing.

The information is easy to access, as it is given in the short video demonstrations which conform to standard practice within the animal care industry.

You can manage your own learning by completing the tasks that relate to each video-clip. These include topics and questions to research and discuss or think about. Work sheets help you to summarise what you have learnt, and interactive tasks help you to test your knowledge.

If you want to make sure that you cover all the topics - use the 'teacher's notes' or 'student's notes'. Following them will lead you through all the lessons in the series. Alternatively simply pick the sections or applications that you are interested in learning more about.

### **Teacher's notes**

As well as a rationale for each unit, including aim and objectives, there is a suggested scheme of work.

The Scheme of Work includes indicative content in the form of questions that will be addressed within each video demonstration. It may be useful to use these either in preparation for watching each 'clip' or in order to assess understanding and learning, during or after the viewing.

The Scheme of Work also contains suggested tasks, which may be used in order to further develop each topic. In many cases these may be ideally suited for use as a student or tutor led task, research, classroom discussion, or as part of an assessment. This resource also includes several integrated interactive tasks, which may also be student or tutor led.

Tasks and questions are designed so as to allow the opportunity for both differentiation, and peer-facilitated learning and assessment to be implemented.



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## **Student's notes**

These notes will help you make sure that you cover everything. Read the notes and follow the instructions that they give about which video-clip to watch.

The notes will also give you questions to think about whilst you are watching each clip; and also questions or tasks to do after each clip.

Taking this approach will make sure that you understand each subject before moving on and that you don't miss anything.

## **Care of small animals**

There are four different species used as examples in this section: hamster, gerbil, mouse and rat. Each species and topic are shown separately, so that if you are interested in something specific, you can go straight to the correct section.

Alternatively it is suggested that you follow either the 'teacher's notes' or the 'student's notes', as these will lead you through every topic for every species, including the interactive tasks provided by this resource.

## **Care of Companion animals**

There are three different species used as examples in this section: Rabbit, Guinea Pig and Ferret. Each species and topic are shown separately, so that if you are interested in something specific, you can go straight to the correct section.

