

ANIMAL CARE

Purpose:

- To assist staff with the care and maintenance of the exhibit room animals and unreleasable box turtles
- To provide young volunteers an opportunity to learn about the responsibilities that go along with animal ownership

Background:

Since the exhibit room was created we have maintained animals in tanks. These displays provide visitors with a chance to see some of the local animals up close and student groups have an opportunity to directly compare animals of different classes.

In 2005 we secured funding to create an outdoor box turtle enclosure for rescued animals that are not able to live in the wild. This educational display shows box turtles in a natural setting and explains to visitors the why wild turtles belong in the wild.

Duties:

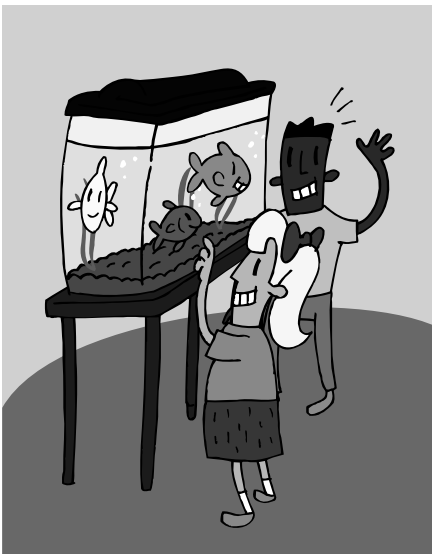
- Feeding of captive animals
- Scrubbing tank walls
- Conducting water changes
- Cleaning and replacing filters
- Keeping a natural setting in tanks and box turtle enclosure
- Recording detailed notes

Skills and Interest required:

- Interest in the well-being of our captive animals
- Previous experience with animal care is helpful but not required
- Volunteers must be willing to handle live worms and clean dirty tanks

Schedule:

- Exhibit Room tank maintenance is performed year-round on alternating weeks
- Volunteers must be willing to commit to coming in at least once per month
- Schedules are flexible and based on volunteer availability



Training:

New volunteers undergo a training period during which they assist staff or veteran volunteers.