



# Animals in Schools

## SACEC APPROVED ACTIVITIES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE CATEGORIES

Activity	Category	Objectives	Approved by
<b>A. Very low impact activities involving animals.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observation of animal behaviour</li> <li>• Observation of pets under the owner's control.</li> <li>• Excursions to observe animals in their natural surroundings or to zoos and other registered wildlife parks.</li> <li>• Excursions to farms for observation of animal behaviour and husbandry activities appropriate to the age, prior experience and maturity of the students.</li> </ul>	1 1 1 1	02, 04	Teacher
<b>B. Low impact activities involving animals provided appropriate instruction is given prior to undertaking the activity and there is appropriate control by a responsible person or the owner of the animal.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observation of particular animal behaviours e.g. oestrus, parturition.</li> <li>• Incursions involving outside agencies that have animals as part of their exhibits.</li> <li>• Animal welfare organisations bringing animals to school (such as Responsible Pet Ownership programs, RSPCA and WIRES).</li> <li>• Collecting and observing frog spawn and tadpoles (see special conditions in <i>Species-specific notes</i>).</li> <li>• The appropriate care of classroom pets, including native animals.*</li> </ul>	2 2 2 2 2	01 – 04	Teacher
<b>C. Activities involving animals that require specific knowledge and skills about the relevant species and there is increased risk of stress to the animal.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mustering, drafting (in crush or bailhead), capture, restraint and handling of non-free-living domesticated animals (leading or riding an appropriately trained animal).</li> <li>• Breeding of appropriate animals in the school (not native animals).</li> </ul>	3 3	01 – 04	AWLO AWLO
<b>D. Non-invasive measurement of:</b>			
1. body weight	2	01, 03	Teacher
2. body condition	2	01, 03	Teacher
• visual assessment	2	01, 03	Teacher
• condition scoring	2	01, 03	Teacher
• ultrasound	2	01, 03	Teacher
3. growth	2	01, 03	Teacher
4. body proportions	2	01, 03	Teacher
5. pulse or blood flow	2	01, 03	Teacher
6. respiration	2	01, 03	Teacher
7. skin temperature (non-invasive)	2	01, 03	Teacher
8. age by dentition	2	01, 03	Teacher
9. scrotum and testicles (palpation)	2	01, 03	Teacher

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<b>E. Measurement of mild dietary effects (provided the normal nutritional needs for the life stage of the animals are met):</b>			
1. high/normal protein	3	O1, O3	AWLO
2. high/normal energy	3	O1, O3	AWLO
3. high/normal fat	3	O1, O3	AWLO
4. palatability	3	O1, O3	AWLO
<b>F. Behaviour activities:</b>			
1. familiarisation	2	O1 – O4	Teacher
2. taming/gentling	3	O1 – O4	AWLO
3. training for competition or showing	3	O1 – O4	AWLO
4. tethering/tying up animals (only for restraint at shows)	3	O1 – O4	AWLO
5. riding horses	3	O1 – O4	AWLO
<b>G. Collection of samples<sup>#</sup> from livestock:</b>			
1. wool/hair	2	O3	Teacher
2. milk	2	O3	Teacher
3. faeces & urine (non-invasive)	2	O3	Teacher
4. faeces (invasive)	3	O3	AWLO
5. blood	5	O3	SACEC
6. measurement of body temperature (invasive)	3	O3	AWLO
<b>H. Standard husbandry activities:</b>			
1. administering treatments			
• water	2	O1, O3, O4	Teacher
• topical — udder	2	O1, O3, O4	Teacher
— backline	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
— spray	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
— dip	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
— jetting	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
• oral — drench	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
— capsules	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
• injection — subcutaneous	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
— intramuscular	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
— intramammary	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
• implant — vaginal	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
— subcutaneous	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
2. coat care and grooming	2	O1, O3, O4	Teacher
3. coat clipping	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
4. ear marking/tagging of livestock	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
5. tattoo application	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
6. hoof paring: sheep & goats & alpacas	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
7. hoof trimming: cattle & horses	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
8. shearing of sheep & goats	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
9. shearing of alpacas and llamas	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
10. dagging	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
11. crutching	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
12. milking	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
13. putting nose clips on cattle	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
14. nose ringing	5	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
15. loading and unloading animals onto transporters	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
16. showing animals at school and away	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
17. foot bathing	2	O1, O3, O4	Teacher
18. fire branding horns of stud sheep	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
19. fire branding of cattle	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
20. freeze branding of cattle	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
21. using sire harnesses	2	O1, O3, O4	Teacher

Activity	Category	Objectives	Approved by
22. castration of immature livestock‡			
• lambs — elastrator	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— knife	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— emasculator	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
• calves — elastrator	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— knife	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— emasculator	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
• kids — elastrator	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— knife	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— emasculator	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
23. tail docking of lambs — elastrator	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— knife	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— gas detailer	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
24. tail docking piglets — knife	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
25. tooth trimming/removal in piglets	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
26. tail tagging	2	O1, O3, O4	Teacher
27. artificial insemination	5	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
28. semen collection	5	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
29.pregnancy detection — external ultrasound (sheep, cattle, goats)	2	O1, O3, O4	Teacher
— rectal (manual) (cattle)	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
— rectal ultrasound (sheep, cattle, goats)	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
30. microchipping of cattle	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
31. horn tipping	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
32. dehorning cattle under 6 months of age‡	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
33. detusking boars	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
34. disbudding calves and kids‡	4	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
35. mulesing young sheep‡	5	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
36. slaughter/euthanasia of stock	5	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
37. sedation of fish	5	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
38. tagging of fish	5	O1, O3, O4	SACEC
39. bandaging of horse legs	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
40. wing trimming - poultry	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
41. leg banding - poultry	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO
42. spur trimming - poultry	3	O1, O3, O4	AWLO

**ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT A TEACHER MAY WISH TO CARRY OUT WITH ANIMALS FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES (including demonstration or student participation) THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS LIST MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE SACEC ON THE APPROPRIATE APPLICATION FORM PRIOR TO THE ACTIVITY BEING CARRIED OUT.**

**PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES—should not be done at school under any circumstances**

The activities set out below may not be carried out by students or demonstrated to them:

1. performance of surgical procedures without anaesthesia, other than in the conduct of normal animal husbandry operations
2. induction of infectious diseases
3. nutritional deficiency
4. administration of drugs or chemicals other than those recommended for a particular therapeutic purpose
5. administration of ionising-radiation or other biohazardous material
6. activities, other than approved activities, giving rise to distress
7. imprinting
8. using animals as prizes for raffles
9. breeding animals solely for dissection.

\*A scientific licence must be obtained from the Office of Environment and Heritage prior to obtaining a native animal from a licenced supplier

#Sample = a small part or a specimen

‡ POCTAA describes the legal ages for some animal husbandry practices for particular species. These are as follows:

**Castration:** **pigs:** less than 2 months,  
**cattle, sheep, goats:** less than 6 months.

**Tail docking:** **sheep:** less than 6 months.

**Mulesing:** **sheep:** less than 12 months.

**Dehorning:** **goats:** less than 1 month,  
**cattle:** less than 12 months.