

ENRICHMENT SOP FOR VOLUNTEERS



The enrichment room is located in Old Barn and should always look this neat when you leave

What and Why

All the animal residents at the Pasado's Safe Haven sanctuary get enrichment every day. We not only want to ensure our residents are physically healthy, but emotionally and mentally stimulated. Enrichment activities are designed to do just that.

Enrichment varies greatly day to day and species to species, but can involve such things as food puzzles, foraging, special treats, listening to the radio, being read or sung to, etc.

Your first few times doing enrichment will be with a volunteer experienced in enrichment or with Karen.

Enrichment Steps

- € **Calendar:** The weekly enrichment calendar is posted in the enrichment room. Read through what is on the schedule for your day.

- ⌘ **Plan:** For activities that require more time, like listening to music, do these activities first so that the animals have time to enjoy them. There is also a lot of walking involved, so plan how you are going to complete the items to reduce too much back and forth.
- ⌘ **Action items:** The enrichment calendar has Action Items and Action Alerts listed that you must pay attention to, but you must ALWAYS:
 - ⌘ Use the foot baths outside of all bird areas as you enter and as you leave each location
 - ⌘ Anything you take to the yards for enrichment must be picked up and either cleaned and put away (toys, radios, etc.) or put in the trash (paper bags, boxes, etc.), whichever is appropriate. If the birds have not finished produce, leave in a small metal bowl for them. -- **EXCEPTIONS:**
 - Alpacas
 - Lower pigs - yard 1
 - Victor's yard
 - Jameson & Hobart's yard

For these areas, radio the caregiver on duty that day to pick up the items when they close.
 - ⌘ If you use produce that is already cut up, you need to replace what you used with fresh cut produce. You never know if the caregivers had prepared it for a specific use. There are descriptions of what and how small to cut produce for the various species hanging on the white board in the enrichment room. You can also always ask Jen, Karen, or a caregiver if you have any questions.
 - ⌘ Pigs and Food: any food enrichment for the big pigs needs to be tossed over the fence and not walked into the yard. The pigs can get a little pushy when treats are involved.
 - ⌘ NEVER ENTER the **Staff Only** areas:
 - alpaca yard up by the gate
 - lower pig yard 1 with Lucy
 - the play yard with Victor.
- ⌘ **Unfinished activities:** Please let the caregivers know if there are areas you didn't finish for that day.
- ⌘ **Cows:** it's a rule that volunteers do NOT go into the cow pastures without a caregiver. All enrichment must be dropped over the fence.

Tips

- **Produce:** Please use produce that looks like it needs to be used soon. Produce shopping generally happens every couple of weeks, so there may be times when we are out of specific things you are looking for. Radio Jen, Karen, or a caregiver for substitution ideas if you are unsure.
- **Reading:** A lot of the animals enjoy hearing people read or sing to them. Keep a book in your car that you would like to read out loud (note: nothing scary, please!). If you don't have reading materials, there are some books in the Volunteer Office that you can borrow.

- **Freezers:** There are two freezers with enrichment foods - a chest freezer in the enrichment room and a standup freezer just inside the door into Old Barn.
- **Mushroom toys:** These are big, green and have a rounded bottom. These are treat dispensers for larger animals like the big pigs. HUGE NOTE: please thoroughly clean these out after use. Several times we have found dead mice in them because they were not cleaned out.
- **Dehydrator:** We frequently have an abundance of apples or bananas, so please fill the dehydrator with thin apple or banana slices and set to medium. If there are dried ones in there, put them in a zip lock bag, date and label, and put into the freezer. PLEASE LEAVE A NOTE and/or let Jen or Karen know when the dehydrator needs to be shut off. It usually takes 24 hours on medium to dry apples.
- **Drying items after cleaning them:** Please let all items air dry before stacking or putting into bins. If it is a treat dispenser and has a hole/s in it, put on a rack with the hole pointing towards the floor to make sure all the water runs out of it. Mold is NOT okay!