



Year 2
Behind the Scenes at Hobart Zoo and
Aquarium
Lesson 1

Hobart Zoo and Aquarium

Stuart Webster has been enchanted by animals and zoos since a young age. Growing up with limited means, he found immense joy wandering Melbourne Zoo alone, promising himself that one day he would own one. That promise became his lifelong mission — pursuing the dream through keeping animals and travelling the world to study hundreds of zoos.

His journey was far from simple. After leaving school early and facing addiction and personal hardship, he rebuilt his life, found stability, and created the financial footing that eventually allowed him to buy the dream.



In 2024, Webster purchased Zoodoo Zoo in Tasmania and rebranded it as Hobart Zoo & Aquarium. He has since launched major upgrades, from new exhibits and an aquarium with future plans for accommodation beside the lion habitat and plans for future species including red pandas, otters, cheetahs and eventually gorillas.

Stuart reinvests everything into creating a world-class, welcoming zoo with a team that share his fierce passion for animal conservation and education. He is finally living the dream he held onto for 50 years!

HZAA Owner Stuart Webster





Six Pillars of Conservation at Hobart Zoo and Aquarium



Pillar One

Supporting ex-situ animal populations



Pillar Two

Educate and inspiring positive change for wildlife



Pillar Three

Protecting wild species and habitats



Pillar Four

Enhancing the value of zoos for nature and society



Pillar Five

Sustaining and caring for our local ecosystems



Pillar Six

Maintaining environmental sustainability



Why do we need Zoos

Learning Intention

We are learning to identify how modern zoos and aquariums support animals, people and the planet.

Success Criteria

We will be successful when we can name and explain at the five domains for animal care.

We will be successful when we can explain why modern zoos and aquariums have a positive impact.



What is a zoo?



Why do we need zoos?



Tasmanian Devil



Cotton-top Tamarin



Why do we need zoos?



Tasmanian Devil

Breeding programs

To breed healthy devils that do not have Facial Tumour Disease to release back into the wild.



Why do we need zoos?



Raise Awareness to Change Human Behaviour

Only 2,000 cotton-top tamarins left in the wild.

This is because of humans logging their habitat and mining.



Cotton-top Tamarin



Environment



Home.

Tasmanian Devils live in the Tasmanian environment.



Nutrition



Food.

Koalas get their nutrition from eucalyptus leaves.



Mental



Feelings

The mental state we want our animals to be in is one where they feel joy.



Read -

Year 2 - Why do we need zoos and aquariums?

Zoos and aquariums look after animals. They keep animals safe.

They help people learn about animals. Scientists there teach us why animals need help.

Some animals are not found in the wild as much now. Zoos help keep them safe and help them have babies.

At **Hobart Zoo and Aquarium**, people learn about **Tasmanian Devils**. There are not many left in the wild.

All animals should feel:

- safe
- healthy
- happy

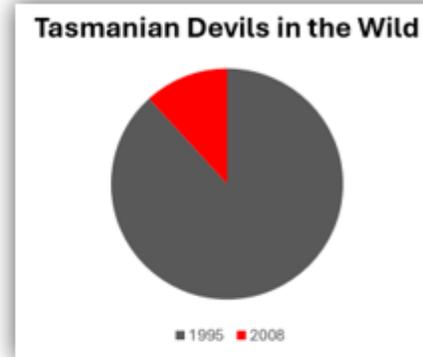


Figure 1 - Tasmanian Devils in the Wild - IUCN Red List -

Zoos use a science tool called the **Five Domains**. These are:



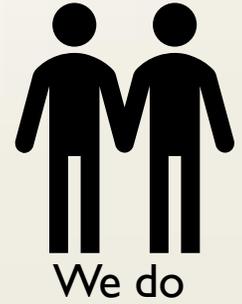
Figure 2 - RSPCA Five Domains Chart

- **Nutrition/Food** – Do animals have good food?
- **Environment/Home** – Is their home safe and comfy?
 - **Health** – Are they well?
 - **Behaviour** – Can they move and play?
- **Mental/Feelings** – Do they feel calm and joyful?

Animals cannot tell us how they feel. Zoos use this to give animals great lives and live like they would in the wild.



Help Hobart Zoo and Aquarium to be sustainable by only printing what you need.



Five Domains – Record in your book

Nutrition

Environment

Health

Behaviour

Mental



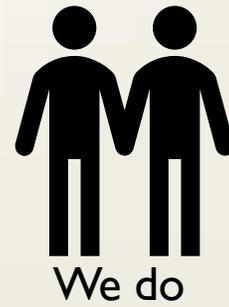
You Do



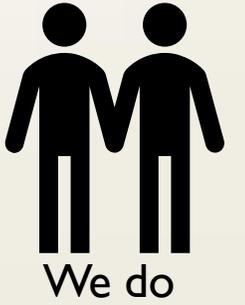
write



Are kookaburras native to Tasmania?



Are kookaburras native to Tasmania?

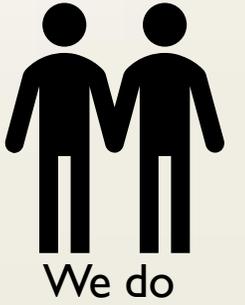


No!

They were brought here to eat snakes!



What does an animal need to stay alive?



Record ideas of the class in Science Journal.





Lesson 2 – What do animals need to survive?

What are native animals?

Learning Intention

We are learning what animals need to survive.

Success Criteria

We will be successful when we can draw a native Tasmanian Animal in it's habitat with what it needs to survive and label these.



Survive



To live.

Some Tasmanian Devils survive
sickness.



Habitat



The place where an animal lives.

The Swift Parrot's habitat is blue gum trees.



Native

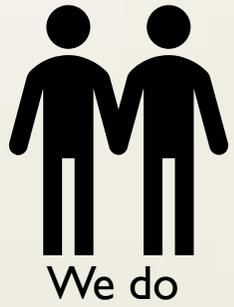


Animals that live in one place.

Tasmanian Devils are native in Tasmania.



Sort these animals into those native to Tasmania and those that are not.



Native to Tasmania Hobart Zoo and Aquarium



Tasmanian Devil



Bettong



Eastern Spotted Quoll



Pademelon



Tasmanian Native Hen



Green Rosella



Swift Parrot



What do
Tasmanian
Devils need to
survive?

Tasmanian Devil Habitat



Tasmanian Devil Habitat



Hollow logs or small caves for shelter



Water to drink.

Food to eat.



Trees and plants for air.



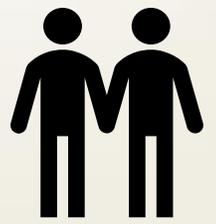
Pademelon Habitat



Swift Parrot Habitat



Hobart Zoo and Aquarium - 2026



We do

Eastern Quoll Habitat



Tasmanian Devil



Water to drink.

Meat to eat.

Hollow logs for shelter.

Trees and plants for air.



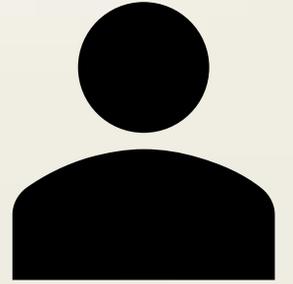
You Do



write



What do animals need to survive?

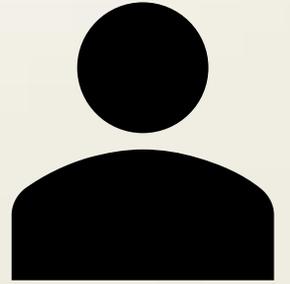


You do

- A** air, water, food and toys
- B** air, water, shelter and food
- C** air, fruit, toys and shelter



**How do
animals
get air?**



You do

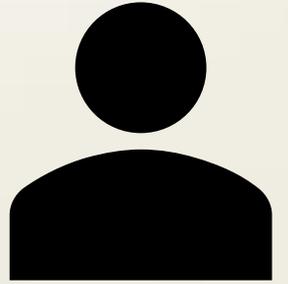
A the sky

B plants

C other animals



**What
might an
animal use
for shelter?**



You do

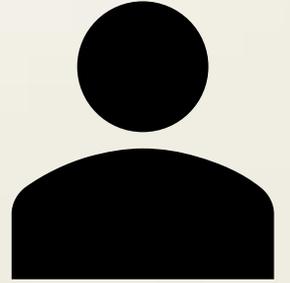
A hollow log

B bed

C car



**What
might an
animal use
for shelter?**



You do

A trees

B dirt

C house



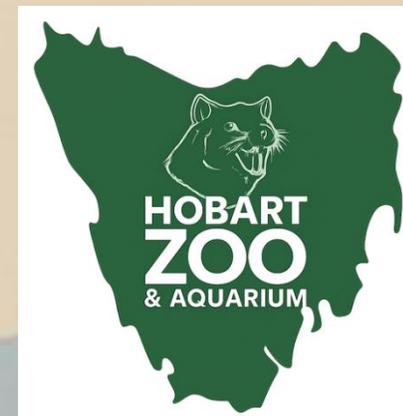


Excursion Time



Now, it's time to get ready
for your excursion to
Hobart Zoo and Aquarium!

See you soon!





Lessons 3

Communicating how science helps animals at Hobart Zoo and Aquarium

Communicating Science

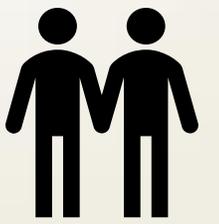
Learning Intention

We are learning to describe how Science is used every day at the Hobart Zoo and Aquarium to care for animals.

Success Criteria

We will be successful when we write an information report to describe how people use Science at Hobart Zoo and Aquarium to help animals.





We do

What Science did we see at the zoo?





What Science is used at the zoo?

Why?



Science at the Zoo



Zookeepers check animal poo regularly to make sure they are healthy and getting the right food.



Science at the Zoo



Marine Biologists check the amount of salt in the water by looking at a sample with a refractometer.



Communicating



to share ideas by talking, writing, drawing,
making a model or a video.



Communicating



We will be communicating to our school about how Science is used at Hobart Zoo and Aquarium.



Write an information text to explain how Science is used at the zoo.



Title – What

Name and fact

Explain what they are doing and why.

5 Domains

Conclusion – personal opinion



At Hobart Zoo and Aquarium, zoo keepers observe and record animal behaviour. This science task helps them to know that animals are feeling joy and healthy.

facts



At Hobart Zoo and Aquarium, zoo keepers **observe** and **record** animal behaviour. This science task helps them to know that animals are feeling joy and healthy.

verbs

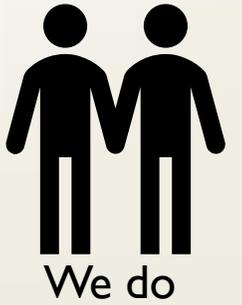


At Hobart Zoo and Aquarium, zoo keepers observe and record animal behaviour. This science task helps them to know that animals are feeling joy and healthy.

nouns



Choose a photo that you'd like to write about.



Science at the Zoo



Zookeepers check animal poo regularly to make sure they are healthy and getting the right food.

Science at the Zoo



Marine Biologists check the amount of salt in the water by looking at a sample with a refractometer.

Turn and Talk



Write an information text to explain how Science is used at the zoo.



Title – What

Name and fact

Explain what they are doing and why.

5 Domains

Conclusion – personal opinion



Share your writing with a partner.





Lesson 4

Visual Art

Visual Art to Communicate Science

Learning Intention

We are learning to communicate how science helps animals at Hobart Zoo and Aquarium.

Success Criteria

We will be successful when we have an artwork of a scene of Science at Hobart Zoo and Aquarium to support our writing.



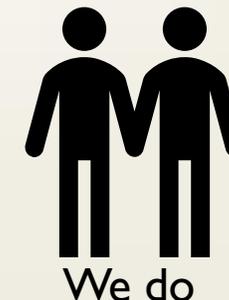
Pictures can be quicker to communicate an idea than writing.



This tells me there aren't many swift parrots.

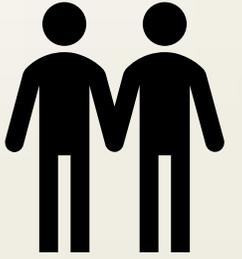
They are in danger.





What does this tell us?





We do

What does this tell us?

Common Wombat

VOMBATUS URSINUS

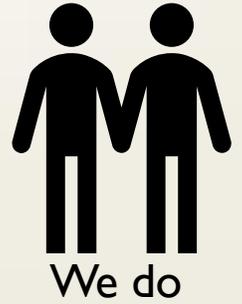


DID YOU KNOW?

Good luck stopping a rampaging wombat! These animals can run at speeds of up to 40km per hour!, and sustain this speed for up to 90 seconds.



What does this tell us?



Open every day 9-5pm

Fully Heated / Air Conditioned
Indoor Playground,
Aquarium & Cafe

HOBART
ZOO
& AQUARIUM

Just 5 minutes from Richmond





Dye Art

Draw a picture of science being used at Hobart Zoo and Aquarium.

Use oil pastels or crayons.

Wash over the drawing with dye.



Art Show Time

