OREGON ZOO

Ethogram Template.

Research your target species and complete the headings below. Use a stopwatch on your phone to tick the behaviors observed at 30s intervals.

Name(s) of observers	Date	Study Species
Weather	Time	Study Animal (identifying features)
Other relevant information (e.g. no. of visitors, feeding time, keeper presence)		

Time (mins)	Behaviors Ascribe behaviors for your focal species in the boxes below (E.g. sleep, eat, play, groom)								Notes (Record anything affecting behaviour)
								Other (describe)	
0:30									
1:00									
1:30									
2:00									
2:30									
3:00									
3:30									
4:00									
4:30									
5:00									
5:30									
6:00									
6:30									
7:00									
7:30									
8:00									
8:30									
9:00									
9:30									
10:00									
Totals									

1. What were the most frequent behaviors you observed for the target animal?

2. Was there an obvious stimulus for any of the behaviors observed? Was there a change in behaviour over time?

3. How do you think this behaviour would help the animal to survive in their native environment?

4. How does this behaviour compare to other conspecifics in the group?

5. How does this behavior compare to other species observed during the Zoo visit?

6. Do you think the behavior you measured was internally valid (i.e., actually measured that behavior and not something else)?

7. Was the method (i.e., focal, scan, etc.) used appropriate for this study?

8. If you repeated the observation again, would you do it differently?

9. What was the Cohen's Kappa score between you and your partner (1. Calculate observed behavior; 2. Calculate expected behavior)?

$$\kappa = 1 - \frac{1 - p_{observed}}{1 - p_{chance}}$$

10. What was the Kappa Index for you and your observation partner?

KAPPA INDEX	AGREEMENT
< 0,20	NEGLIGIBLE
0,21 - 0,40	MINIMAL
0,41 - 0,60	MODERATE
0,61 - 0,80	GOOD
0,81 - 1,0	EXCELLENT

Source: Altman DG. Practical Statistics for Medical Research. London: Chapman & Hall; 1991.10

11. Use your results to create a pie chart reflecting the activity budget for the target animal you observed and compare this to conspecifics within the same exhibit. Is the behavior externally valid (i.e., representative of the other animals)?

12. Note the different target species observed by others in the class. Which were species are social and which are typically solitary?

Go to the SPSS data file and enter your ethogram data, we will calculate the observed relative to the expected data for the different species as well as differences across animals for various behavioral categories.

13. Using face validity alone in “eye-balling” the data, do you have any initial predictions about how the statistical results will go? List your predictions (the null is implicit, just state the research predictions).