



# Brasil News

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And on FACEBOOK!



Low-cost, recycling and good will changes the everyday life of confined dogs at the CCZ-SP after the SHAPE's workshop.

## Enrichment is not only for wild animals!

The SHAPE's visit to the CCZ (Zoonosis Control Center) of the City of São Paulo shows that enrichment is for all species. Employees participated of a workshop

aimed to develop creativity in order to ensure the quality of life for the animals, while they wait for a new owner. Pages 6 and 7.



At the Final Word, the coordinator of SHAPE Brasil, Dr. Cristiane Pizzutto and PhD candidate Manuela Sgai alert to the **Second Brazilian Conference of Environmental Enrichment** and invite everyone who's interested in animal

welfare. Besides that, check out the **BRASIL NEWS LOGO SWEEPSTAKES**. Don't miss it! And to finish this edition, a reading tip and the cartoon from our European contributor Philip Knowling. Pages 8 and 9.

## Professor César Ades: "The motivation for the research in Environmental Enrichment is the welfare of captive animals."

Professor César Ades, worldwide renowned authority in animal behavior, teacher of the Psychology Institute of the University de Sao Paulo, exposes his

vision about animal enrichment, in a clarifying text, exclusive for Brasil News. Check out the complete text. Pages 3 and 4.



SHAPE Brasil works with the flying-foxes, among other species, at the Aquário de São Paulo.

## Aquário de São Paulo and SHAPE: Partnership for welfare.

The SHAPE's advisory for the Aquário de São Paulo benefits

everyone, especially the animals. At least 8 animals are being monitored. Find out more about the project. Page 5.

### Expediente

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**I**deas, ideas, ideas...a lot of creativity. After all...that's how ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT works. How to make a stimulating environment?

How to increase exploratory behavior, reduce inactivity, raise behavioral variability? Without a doubt, the aim is to provide welfare. WELFARE IS A LOT MORE THAN BEING WELL!!!! And this will be discussed at the **II Brazilian Conference of Environmental Enrichment (CBEA)**, and we won't be discussing only wild animals, but also laboratory, production and companion animals, all of those that, for some reason, are in captivity.

We'll read about the MULTIPLE SCIENCE OF ENRICHMENT, an area with its own personality. And so, open path for another valuable mean of communication...SIRS, we present you the "**Brasil News**", and this one is here to stay

Providing readers with more opportunities to learn, teach, divulge, discuss, or just relax. TOGETHER WE WILL "ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES" AND SHOW THE FACE OF BRAZIL.

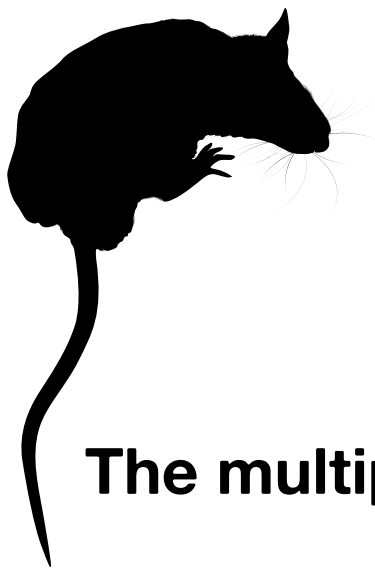
## The multiple science of environmental enrichment

The increasingly acute conscience concerning unfavorable conditions in which animals in captivity are found, and a convergence of research efforts dealing with this issue, have led to the emergence of environmental enrichment as an area with its own personality. Yerkes (1925), the founder what today is the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, along with Hediger (1950), director of the Zurich Zoo, and also Morris (1964), who, at the time, was the curator of the London Zoo, were among the precursors of this idea. The publication of *Second Nature: environmental enrichment for captive animals* (Shepherdson, Mellen and Hutchins, 1998) represents a first proposal for the integration and a stimulus for the discovery of a "multitude of innovative, imaginative, and ingenious techniques, aimed at keeping captive animals occupied, increasing the range and diversity of behavioral opportunities, and providing more stimulating and responsive environments" (Shepherdson, 1998).

The strongest motivation for research in environmental enrichment is finding safe strategies to improve the well-being of captive animals, through research. The before-during-after delineation, which is extensively used, in which after determining a behavioral

baseline (often with the assessment of stress levels through hormonal indicators), changes in the captivity context and husbandry, that could have benefic effects, are introduced, is typical of the approach. The permanence of the enriching effects is assessed in the last phase. It's important to notice that, even if successful, the use of before-during-after sets essential theoretic questions, related to the origination processes of misadjustment and recuperation. It is necessary to understand what happens at the inadequate environment and the working method of the therapeutic variables.

The choice for enriching strategies is based on the knowledge of the animal, and in hypothesis about what could decrease the monotony, challenge the animal, give them more control, stimulate species-typical responses, and broaden their social contacts. These hypotheses often come from the researcher's experience with the captive species. Morgan et al. (1998), writes that "Particularly in the zoo setting, personal experiences are invaluable in informing any enrichment program. Keepers, curators, and researchers work closely with 'their' animals every day and know them at a greater depth than can be provided by textbook accounts". But theoretical hypotheses (from textbooks) can be essential, along with



## The multiple science of environmental enrichment

the indispensable direct knowledge. Any enrichment study is structured from what is known about the animal's behavior, in nature or in other captivity contexts, and from what is known concerning general processes that manage the pre-programming and flexibility of the behaviour. From this, it occurs that an environmental enrichment study can bring relevant information about the species as species and of the learning and behavioral changes as such.

In a reciprocal manner, an approach that takes on the behavioral ecology of the species – what is known regarding reproductive strategy, social relationship construction, diet and foraging, circadian distribution of activities, etc.- and concerns motivational and cognitive processes at stake, can generate hypotheses that, at the same time, transcend the immediate reality of captivity, and serves better to it's comprehension.

From this intergame, models regarding what goes on in animal enrichment must be created. Besides the knowledge of acting strategies that work as recipes, more general principles, which base the success of the interventions, and that can be tested and generalized with rigor, are being looked for. This statement establishes continuity between the applied function of research on enrichment, and its theoretical function of test and confirmation models. In environments where environmental enrichment is generally studied, there may be methodological restrictions regarding de number of available animals, their origin, possible manipulations, etc., but this is another challenge for scientific creativity. The progress of knowledge in the environmental enrichment area involves, as already noted by Shepherdson (1998), the integration of techniques and approaches from diverse disciplines, which is the reason for the reference to the "multiple science" on the title of this text. However, multiple can also indicate the mutual insertion of practical and theoretical knowledge, in beneficence of the welfare of animals.

# Where is SHAPE Brasil?

Laura Reinfeld – Aquário de São Paulo's Veterinary Physician

Laura Ippolito Moura – Aquário de São Paulo's Biologist

Photos: Rafael Arueira

## Aquário de São Paulo

With the advisory from Shape Brazil, we, at the Aquário de São Paulo, were able to initiate a new vision of animal husbandry. With the beginning of the animals' conditioning, procedures that in the past were often stressing, became easier, and today are parts of our routine.

The best example to describe this is the conditioning of six Flying foxes (*Pteropus vampirus*) individuals that now accept touch, palpation, auscultation, anesthesia mask placement and many more. Since the opening of the aquarium, there has always been a big concern with the captive animals' welfare and stress decrease, but only now



Use of conditioning techniques as tools for facilitating veterinary procedures.

with the advisory from Shape Brasil, we could reach some of our goals, which include joining two nutria (*Myocastor coypus*) couples, behavioral follow up and activity peak of: nurse sharks (*Ginglymostoma cirratum*), lesser anteater (*Tamandua tetradactyla*) and neotropical river otter (*Lontra longicaudis*) pups, a Subantarctic fur-seal (*Arctocephalus tropicalis*), an Amazonian manatee (*Trichechus inunguis*) and Magellanic penguins (*Spheniscus magellanicus*).



The animal-professional relationship should be stimulated through training and conditioning.

We still have a lot of work ahead, and we hope that this partnership keeps on bringing excellent results for our veterinary routine and for animal husbandry and welfare.



# Where is SHAPE Brasil?

Text and photos: Cristiane Schilbach Pizzutto  
Manuela Gonçalves Fraga Geronymo Sgai

## CCZ-SP' Workshop



Enrichment is not only for wild animals, and also benefits the captive ones at CCZ.

**O**n February 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 25th, Shape Brazil offered an Environmental Enrichment workshop for the veterinarians, agents and volunteers of the CCZ (Zoonosis Control Center) of the City of São Paulo. Currently, the CCZ is the responsible for the care of 382 dogs, and 80 abandoned cats - many of which are waiting for adoption.

Aiming to introduce the idea of what is enrichment to the participants, it was possible to develop a theoretical content and a practical workshop. All of the participants contributed with recyclable, low-cost, simple materials.

Using their imagination, creative, ingenious and great applicability ideas were developed.

“It’s evident that Environmental Enrichment allows rescuing the animals’ sensations, reactions and behaviors that brings them close to nature”.

**Moacyr Giovanini Dal Bom,**  
CCZ-SP

We are sure that we have aroused enthusiasm in more than 90 people acting with dogs and cats. The sensation is of mission accomplished!!!



All species, such as domestic felines, can benefit from environmental enrichment.

# Where is SHAPE Brasil?

Text and photos: Cristiane Schilbach Pizzutto  
Manuela Gonçalves Fraga Geronymo Sgai

## CCZ-SP' Workshop

Coming up some testimonials from the participants.

The workshop was extremely useful for me as a veterinarian of CCZ, ahead of the great challenge of providing the dogs that are confined here with welfare and quality of life. Even as a small animal doctor, I can apply it to the animals I attend (many of them with behavioral disturbances induced by confinement and boredom)".

**Cibele Mazzei Nahas,**  
veterinarian CCZ-SP.

"Environmental Enrichment is, for me, a new concept in the man-animal interaction, where the respect for the animals' real necessities is the basis for their welfare, thus providing them conditions of a worthy life, or less suffering in unnatural conditions".

**Neide O. Garcia, veterinarian- cat kennel CCZ-SP.**



The use of alternative materials, which could be considered residue, enables the enrichment process.



Making the access to food more difficult, can increase exploratory behavior, and decrease inactivity.

"...very interesting, because I had the idea of the necessity of behavior stimulations, but didn't know exactly how to do it"

**Rogério Azuaga- dog kennel.**

## Shape Brasil has news!

**B**rasil news will be one more channel of information for you, who is interested in environmental enrichment. We want you sharing with our work and enhancing, more and more, your knowledge in the area.

Save the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of October, 2010, for a memorable meeting with international and Brazilian professionals who have a lot to offer, learn, and teach. Here comes the II CBEA. It will be a great opportunity for us to show the quality of our projects, results, and ally the

simplicity of an idea to the relevance of a scientific data.

This makes enrichment something intriguing. The investment is small, the will power has to be huge, but the results are surprising.

Don't forget: if you have an idea, or an experience with enrichment, let us know: You create, invent, The Shape of Enrichment divulges and the animals thank!



II CBEA

*Bem-estar é muito mais do que estar bem*



## Brasil News LOGO Sweepstakes

Cristiane Schilbach Pizzutto  
Shape-Brasil Manager

Brasil News needs a logo. If you're creative and talented, create a logo, and send it till march, 15, 2010, to [SHAPEBRASIL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SHAPEBRASIL@GMAIL.COM). The logo that suits Brasil News the best, will win the registration for the Second Brazilian Conference of Environmental Enrichment (II CBEA), and will be our special guest! Participate!!

## Reading Suggestion

Angélica da Silva Vasconcellos

### Environmental Enrichment for Captive Animals

de Robert J. Young

Young, R. J. (2003). Environmental enrichment for captive animals. Oxford: Blackwell Science.

A good book, a good article, or, simply a text for divulging. If you thought of something, make your suggestion... send it to Brasil News.

## Comics

Philip Knowling

Press Officer of Paignton Zoo Environmental Park & Living Coasts

