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**Session type:** Workshop

**Duration:** 30 minutes

**Key Stage:** FE & HE

**Main Topics Covered**

- Animal welfare
- Animal behavior
- Animal management
- Marine biology
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**Session Overview**

Our Behind the Scenes – Animal Husbandry sessions are a 30-minute workshop which takes place during a tour of the exhibits. We will take your group to key areas of interest where we will show them different aspects of animal care, welfare and husbandry, as well as filtration systems, feeding and pathology. Within these 30 minutes, the group will visit:

- Plymouth Sound reserve room – A quarantine area which has local water animals in it either for initial isolation or for treatments
- The top of one of our largest exhibits (dependent on availability with husbandry works)
- Ocean lab
- Animal food preparation room
- Pathology lab
- Plant room (dependent on availability with other engineering works)

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**Topics that can be covered within your tour**

- Purpose of having behind the scenes areas
  - Animal care and welfare
  - Veterinary care and treatments
  - Preparation of nutrition
- Quarantine and animal acquisitions
  - Period of quarantine and where we get animals
  - How we research new animal husbandry techniques
- Water chemistry and filtration systems
  - Physical, chemical and biological filtration
  - Nitrogen cycle in aquatic systems
  - pH, salinity and temperature needs of different systems
- Animal nutrition
  - How we feed the animals
  - Dietary requirements of different animals
  - Conditioning of animals

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**To book, or for more information:**

Call us now on 01752 275 233 or email [justaddh2o@national-aquarium.co.uk](mailto:justaddh2o@national-aquarium.co.uk)

[www.national-aquarium.co.uk](http://www.national-aquarium.co.uk)



**Behind the Scenes –**  
**Animal Husbandry (FE & HE)**  
Programme of Study



**Learning Outcomes**

Students will:

- Have a deeper understanding of behind the scenes areas of zoos and aquariums with their purpose, organisation and job roles
- Be able to describe the quarantine process for various animals and reasons why we quarantine animals
- Have an understanding of water chemistry and how aquarium manage their water quality in terms of physical filtration, chemical and biological filtration, i.e. the nitrogen cycle
- Know the basic nutrition requirements of the animals kept in an aquarium and how conditioning can help the overall health of the animals in the care of zoos and aquariums

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