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**Zookeeper - Ectotherms (Amphibian focus)**

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| **Job level** | **2** | **Reports to** | **Team Leader** |
| **Directorate** | **Zoos and Engagement** | **Function** | **Animal Department** |
| **Contract**  | **Permanent** | **Location** | **Regent’s Park / Whipsnade**  |

**Responsibility for resources**

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| **Direct line reports** | **N/A** | **Responsibility for other resources** | **Animal Welfare** |
| **Financial resources** | **N/A** |

**Our vision and mission**

The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is an international conservation charity, driven by science, working to restore wildlife in the UK and around the world. Our vision is a world where wildlife thrives and every role, every person in every corner of ZSL has one thing in common – we are all conservationists, and passionate about restoring wildlife.

**Purpose of the role**

This role will focus on the management and maintenance of the amphibian species held at ZSL London Zoo, providing animal husbandry and welfare in accordance with best practice protocols. Amphibian husbandry at ZSL requires experience in the fundamentals of freshwater management, alongside, the specific health requirements and risk factors associated with working with threatened Amphibia. This role will be within the wider Ectotherms keeping team and as such the candidate will be expected to also support the teams work with the wide array of species across the department, including reptile, terrestrial invertebrate, and marine species.

**Key responsibilities**

* Preparation of approved diets and the carrying out of feeding procedures.
* Maintaining the highest standards of hygiene by cleaning and maintaining exhibits, equipment, and other designated areas, including water quality management.
* Contribute to the development of high standards of husbandry and welfare, developing innovative, enriching, and aesthetic habitats with the team.
* Observe the behaviour, health and security of animals and report concerns and problems to Lead Keepers or Section Manager.
* Assist and develop animal training and enrichment programmes.
* Administration of veterinary treatments under the direction of the Veterinary Team.
* Create a positive visitor experience by engaging effectively with customers through talks and demonstrations.
* Engage with the curatorial team and support conservation and research activity.
* Data entry to animal records and onto daily record sheets, risk assessments and the ZIMS database.
* To ensure that the policy for equality and diversity is adhered to and promoted in all aspects of the post holder’s work.

**Person Specification**

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| Experience |
| Essential | * Successful completion of the Zookeeper and Aquarist Apprenticeship Programme or a Diploma in the Management of Zoo and Aquarium Animals (DMZAA) qualification (or equivalent).
* A minimum of 2 years keeping experience within a Zoo or Aquarium.
* Significant experience in the practical management of Amphibian species.
* A willingness to work with Category 1 reptiles.
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| Desirable  | * Experience in the management of Category 1 reptiles.
* Experience in the management of wider ectotherm species, including terrestrial-invertebrate and marine forms.
* Experience in using animal management software such as Zims.
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| Knowledge and skills |
| Essential | * A good knowledge of LSS equipment associated with high quality herptile care, and its management.
* A strong knowledge of water quality and the processes involved in water quality management in Zoos and Aquaria.
* Ability to deliver public talks, presentations and tours as required.
* An ability to work as part of a team as well as an individual to complete section tasks.
* Able to support the training and management of volunteers, apprentices, students, and colleagues as requested.
* Familiarity with prioritising and managing competing operational priorities.
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| Desirable | * Ability to demonstrate initiative and a pro-active approach to completing tasks beneficial to the section/department.
* Demonstrates respectful, punctual, reliable, trustworthy, and diligent behaviour
* Ability to think sustainably and maximise productivity and efficiency
* A presentable appearance through following uniform and clothing policy.
* Advanced skills in using MS office packages, specifically Excel and PowerPoint or equivalent software packages will be acceptable.
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| Additional requirements |
| Essential | * The ZSL Zoos operate 7 days a week and requires an average of 37.5 hours per week on a rota (which includes weekends and bank holidays). The expected rota for this role would include working 2 in 4 weekends.
* The role includes regular public engagement, including but not limited to; tours, talks, and walkthrough cover.
* This post will require significant indoor working within rooms with environments that vary significantly during the year to mimic both temperate and tropical environments. It may also include significant outdoor working at certain points in the year.
* A presentable appearance through following uniform and clothing policy.
* Able to demonstrate high accuracy and attention to detail with reference to written communications.
* Strong commitment to creating a culture that lives ZSL values and commitment to safeguarding, equality and diversity (collaborative, inspiring, inclusive, innovative, impactful and ethical).
* This role has significant physical demands and involves long periods of standing, walking, lifting, carrying, reaching, pushing, pulling, etc.
* This post requires occasional work during evenings and overtime where appropriate.
* To comply with and promote Health and Safety policies and procedures.
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