

# The five animal welfare needs

## To be able to express normal behaviour

Animals need the space to be able to behave naturally - they need to be able to stretch out fully (from nose to tail), and run, jump and play.

Animals also need to be able to interact with – and avoid – their own kind, so they should be kept with others of their own species if possible.

## Health care and treatment when necessary

Illnesses and injury should be prevented through vaccination and safe equipment and environment.

Their health should be monitored and diagnosis and treatment of any medical issue should happen quickly.



## Shelter, security and comfort

Animals need shelter and somewhere comfortable to rest.

They should have soft, clean bedding and natural light. If an animal is kept outside it must have shelter from the elements (hot sun, rain etc.).

## To be without fear or stress

An animal's mental health is just as important as its physical health.

It is important that the conditions that the animal lives (and works) in are safe, not overcrowded, and clean. They need opportunities to play and to be able to retreat and hide if needed.



## A nutritious diet and plenty of fresh water

Animals require easy access to fresh water and nutritious food to keep them healthy and full of energy.

The amount of water and food they need per day depends on the animal, as does the type of food.