RISK ASSESSMENT WIZARD



# PETTING ZOO/ANIMAL INTERACTION

Safety Guide

Youth Group

| 4 | 16 | 19 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Key Benefits | Control Measures | Checklist Items |

## KEY BENEFITS

### Empathy

Promotes empathy and compassion through interaction with animals.

### Education

Enhances knowledge about different animal species and their habitats.

### Responsibility

Fosters responsibility through proper animal handling and care.

### Conservation

Builds appreciation for biodiversity and wildlife conservation.

## KEY HAZARDS & CONTROL MEASURES

### Zoonotic Diseases

- ✔ Mandatory handwashing after contact
- ✔ Supervise young children closely
- ✔ No eating in animal areas
- ✔ No face contact with animals

### Animal Bites & Scratches

- ✔ Proper handling demonstrated
- ✔ Staff supervision at enclosures
- ✔ No sudden movements
- ✔ First aid for bites available

### Allergic Reactions

- ✔ Allergy info collected beforehand
- ✔ Epipens accessible if needed
- ✔ Antihistamines available
- ✔ Alternatives for allergic children

### Large Animal Hazards

- ✔ Approach from side, not behind
- ✔ No running near animals
- ✔ Adult supervision required
- ✔ Staff present at all times

# PRE-SESSION SAFETY CHECKLIST

## Risk Assessment

- [ ] Complete and review risk assessment for this activity
- [ ] Ensure all identified hazards have control measures in place
- [ ] Brief all staff on key risks and emergency procedures

## Hygiene

- [ ] Handwash stations located
- [ ] Sanitizer available
- [ ] No eating rules briefed
- [ ] Clean clothing reminder

## Animals

- [ ] Handling rules explained
- [ ] Staff supervision present
- [ ] Feeding rules clear
- [ ] Enclosure safety checked

## Health

- [ ] Allergies documented
- [ ] Medication accessible
- [ ] First aid kit ready
- [ ] Emergency plan clear

## Supervision

- [ ] Ratios confirmed
- [ ] Buddy system set
- [ ] Meeting point arranged
- [ ] Check-in times set

RISK ASSESSMENT WIZARD

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