

ABNORMAL REPETITIVE BEHAVIORS IN ZOO ANIMALS AS WELFARE INDICATORS

OBJECTIVES

- **Define** and **classify** abnormal repetitive behaviors (**ARBs**)
- Identify **risk factors**
- Examine **health impacts**
- Assess how ARBs affect animal **reproduction**
- Explore **environmental enrichment**

DEFINITION AND CLASSIFICATION

Abnormal Repetitive Behaviors (**ARBs**) are patterns of behavior performed by animals that are typically **repetitive, invariant, and seemingly purposeless** (1).

Two types of Abnormal Repetitive Behaviors are distinguished: **maladaptive** and **malfunctioning** behaviors (2).

ARBs IN DIFFERENT SPECIES



PREDISPOSITION



RISK FACTORS



ENVIRONMENT

Such as daily **movement** range, **temperature**, presence of **visitors**, ability to **forage**, and differences between **gregarious** and non-gregarious animals (3).

CONCLUSIONS

- ARBs signal **poor welfare** but aren't always linked to stress.
- ARB causes **differ between species**, what matters for one may not affect another.
- Each species shows specific ARBs based on **natural needs**
- Stress can reduce **reproductive success**
- ARBs can lead to **health issues**, including **physical injuries or pathologies** that can also affect **vital functions**
- **Environmental enrichment** helps reduce stress and ARBs.

PHYSICAL HARM

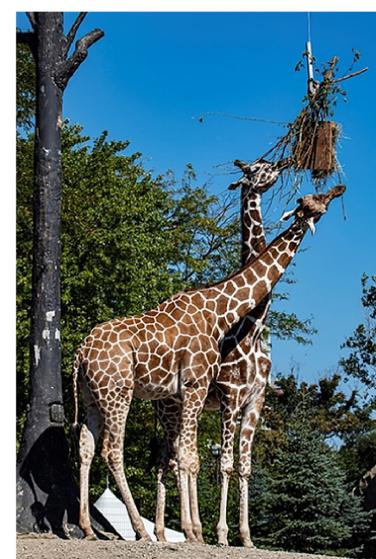
PATHOLOGIES

REPRODUCTION

ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT

All **strategies** applied to animals in captivity with the aim of improving their **quality of life** by providing a **stimulating environment** that allows them to express their **natural behaviors** (4).

- Olfactory stimulation
- Puzzle feeders
- Environmental conditions
- Chewable objects
- Others



REFERENCES

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