

for the Replacement Refinement & Reduction of Animals in Research

Protocol A: Use of an enrichment item – example ethogram

Category	Behaviour	Code	Definition
Focal enrichment	Climbing on	EC	Climbing up the sides, using the sides for support while rearing or stretching, moving around on top of, standing still on top of.
	Resting in/on	ER	Lying down or sleeping in/on or in contact with focal enrichment (alone or huddling with others). Standing still inside of enrichment.
	Gnawing	EG	Using teeth to make contact with, biting, chewing or mouthing enrichment.
	Social	ES	Social interactions (excluding huddling, for huddling use ER), such as gentle allogrooming or playing, with one or more companion while in/on/touching enrichment.
	Aggressive	EA	While in or in contact with enrichment for any part of the interaction: performing or being on the receiving end of aggressive behaviours, e.g. chasing, biting, fighting, tail rattling, mounting, aggressive grooming (vigorous pulling of fur, focused on head and shoulders).
	Activity	EA	Being in or in contact with the focal enrichment in a way that is not defined above, including using or moving other enrichment on or into the focal enrichment (e.g. moving bedding into the shelter, eating treats atop the focal enrichment).
Other enrichment	Other enrichment	OE	Contact or interaction with other enrichment within the cage (e.g. shredding nestlet, gnawing stick), while not in or in contact with the focal enrichment.
Non-enrichment	Resting	NR	Lying down or sleeping while not in contact with the focal enrichment. If huddling use code NS (non-enrichment social).
	Social	NS	Gentle allogrooming, playing or huddling with one or more companion.
	Aggressive	NA	As EA but outside and not in contact with the focal enrichment.
Stereotypy	Stereotypy	S	Repetitive behaviour without clear goal, e.g. bar mouthing, circling, looping.
Unclassified	Unclassified	U	Any behaviours that do not fall into any of the above categories (e.g. eliminating, eating).