

Research Activity Report
Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”
 (Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

	2017. 02, 12
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/M1
Name	Anna Kawakita

1. Country/location of visit
Saitama Children’s Zoo
2. Research project
Assistance of Enrichment Workshop by SHAPE-Japan (http://www.enrichment-jp.org/)
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2017. 02. 09 – 2017. 02. 11 (3days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
SHAPE-Japan
5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)
Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.
<p>An enrichment workshop was held at Saitama Children’s Zoo on Feb. 10 and 11. This workshop was organized by SHAPE-Japan which tries to promote environmental enrichment efforts for captive animals and to encourage improvements in animal welfare. This type of workshop was started last year, and at that time carnivores were focused on. For the second time in this year herbivores were dealt with: Japanese Serow, Horse & Pony, Patagonian Cavy, Goat, Bennett’s Wallaby. More than 50 zoo/aquarium-keepers and researchers joined the workshop and I assisted it.</p> <p>First, Dr. Ninomiya (Gifu University) gave a talk about environmental enrichment based on his study. He is a specialist of domestic animals like cattle or horse. He mentioned that once cattle start stereotypic behavior using their tongue, it is difficult to extinguish it. Captive giraffe as well as cattle sometimes do licking bar or playing tongue, so the talk was interesting to me. He also said that making environmental choices is an enrichment. When it is hot, they want to stay in the shade, and when cold, under the sun. Only a few giraffe enclosures in Japan have a large tree which make an enough shade space for resting. What I’m desiring now is to let them rest under the tree in summer. Therefore the topic of creating options attracted me, too.</p> <p>Ms. Miho Saito (PWS student) was the next speaker. She gave a presentation about social structure of wild giraffe. After the talk, a zookeeper asked her an opinion about surplus male in zoo. It might be difficult to answer, I thought, but she first told a result of her observation in the wild and then stated her views based upon the fact. I was very happy to listen to her presentation.</p> <p>After these lectures, group work was started. When we conduct enrichment, thinking SPIDER model is useful: Setting goals, Planning, Implementing, Documenting, Evaluating and Re-Adjusting. Last year evaluation couldn’t be done during the workshop because they gathered only one day. In this year the period was set for two days so that they could measure effects of enrichment. They learned the way of observing animal behavior, and tried to compare behaviors between before and after the introduction of enrichment. Most of the ideas which they gave were creating new feeders. I understood that making herbivores’ life better was more difficult than I thought.</p>

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Participants (Photo by SHAPE-Japan)

6. Others

I really appreciate to the staffs of SHAPE-Japan, all of the participants and PWS support.