

Hamster Enrichment



ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT

Housing/Environment: Hamsters are housed in Rat sized cages. Water bottle (with long lixit) provided on wire bar lid



Structural Enrichment: Polycarbonate tunnel (amber color) is provided to each cage

Sensory: Carefresh® (wood pulp); ~1.5" deep, provided as bedding (because they are a burrowing species)

Manipulanda: Bowls are used in the cage to contain food enrichment

Nutritional: Aside from standard feed (Isopro rodent chow) the following nutritional items are provided; Timothy hay cubes & veggie bites; 1 tsp 2x/week may be given. Fruity gems; combined with human-animal socialization at the point of cage change or more often, as handled.

SOCIAL HOUSING

Animals should be procured in pairs or groups and as a standard and are housed socially within the guidelines for space in standard CCM cages. If individually housed, consult enrichment personnel for more information

EXERCISE

Exercise is not applicable for this species, however larger cages are used and can promote increased physical activity.

CCM Cage Standards

Human animal socialization: provided to prevent/reduce aggression and increase the ease of handling.

Enrichment: will be tested to ensure usage, safety, practicality and durability

According to the Enhancement Policy; No animal is exempt from all forms of environmental enrichment and any exemptions to social housing or exercise should be considered for only the minimal amount of time or restriction necessary.

Modifications to this SOP must be approved by the CCM Enrichment Program Manager following the criteria of the exemption plan

If Enrichment used is out side of the standard, contact CCM Enrichment Personnel.