

Resources for the enrichment of birds of prey including owls, vultures, hawks, eagles, and other raptor species living in human care





## 24/7 care Enrichment across lifespan

Enrichment should be seen as the <u>sprinkles on top</u> of an environment and care programme design that is, in and of itself, enriching to the animals. Creating spaces that increase an animal's agency to decide what they want to do and when they want to do it is key to optimal animal wellbeing.

Enrichment can take many forms, including the foundations of the habitat and the permanent and/or moveable furniture and fixtures, as well as anything additional we add or do with the animals, such as training and other human-animal interactions, different objects, and how we present their food to them.



## Science into Practice: Enrichment Preferences of Raptors at Elmwood Park Zoo, Tyler (2017)

In a study of red tailed hawks and bald eagles living in an American zoo, it was determined that the bald eagle demonstrated a preference for natural enrichment items over man-made devices. While this does not imply that all birds of prey prefer natural enrichment types, the results do set a precedent for considering the preferences of individual birds when designing enrichment strategies.



<u>Avian Veterinarians bird</u> <u>enrichment page</u>



Ambassador Animal bird information center



Veterinary partner bird enrichment page



### Birds of Prey Enrichment resources



#### WildThink - Bats & birds enrichment database

The ideas presented on the WildThink database are broadly applicable to multiple species, but can be used for many species of birds including birds of prey.

Click here to visit the WildThink database for birds



#### **Raptor Taxon Advisory Group enrichment ideas**

This inspiration page from the Raptor TAG includes photos, a pinterest board for enrichment and perching ideas, as well as a full downloadable document including safety considerations.

Click here to visit the Raptor TAG enrichment inspiration page.



#### **American Association of Zookeepers Bird Enrichment**

These guidelines for bird enrichment, including birds of prey, have been shared by AAZK with suggestions for different enrichment types and how they can be achieved.

Click here to visit the suggested guidelines for bird enrichment.



#### Carolina Raptor Center enrichment blog

The Carolina Raptor Center hosts their own blog where they share enrichment ideas, videos, and photos of ideas they have tried.

Click here to visit the CRC enrichment blog.



#### **Animal Training Academy cognitive enrichment for raptors**

This ATA vlog and blog post shares ideas for cognitive enrichment for birds of prey, including how training can be used as a form of enrichment, food components, and enclosure furniture.

Click here to visit the ATA cognitive enrichment blog.



Making enrichment for birds at the Carolina Raptor Center



Zoo Atlanta birds of prey enrichment ideas



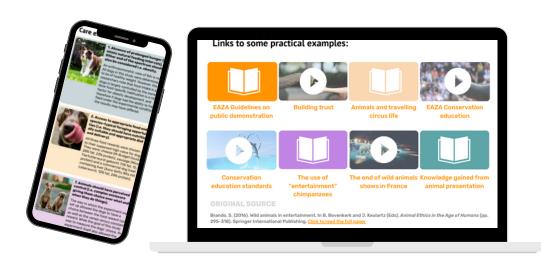
Squam Lakes Natural Science
Centre raptor enrichment



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