

# MONKEY

## PROJECT INFORMATION

The Project leaders have been involved in primate rehabilitation since 1992 – they are the “Vervet Monkey Specialists” being approved by the South African Government. This is not just a rehabilitation centre for monkeys, but for other animal and bird species. Any injured / orphaned animals get treated at the centre and when healed or big enough, are released back into their natural habitat with the help of volunteers. No animals are kept for display.

The project specializes in the rehabilitation of orphaned, injured or humanized monkeys that gets sent to or brought to the centre by private individuals or government concerns.

The Monkey Rehabilitation Project was established to accommodate and provide temporary sanctuary for wildlife casualties, rehabilitate them to a point of self support and the ultimate release and introduction into nature where they naturally belong.

## VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

The aim of the research is to study and to document the behavioural activities of captive vervet monkeys, baboons and other wildlife species, correlate results with studies performed in the wild on wild free ranging vervet monkeys and other species, and their ultimate releases into the wild. The results of these research projects have proved that domesticated pet monkeys and other species of wildlife casualties can be rehabilitated and be successfully re- introduced into the wild.

Animals are not kept in cages once they have been rehabilitated. Primates do take longer to rehabilitate, and this could take so up to 3 years.

It is impossible to guarantee that volunteers will work with / handle more than monkeys when at the centre, but... as this project is getting more and more different species of animals / birds in, it is difficult to predict what volunteers will actually handle while they are at the project.



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## POSSIBLE WORK EXPERIENCE

Caring for injured sick / animals.

Assisting with medical procedures e.g. stitching wounds, wound dressing, ministering medicines and parasital treatment to various species.

Assisting with measurements and filling in report forms on admission, personal caring to traumatized monkeys and other animals admitted.

Preparing meals for animals. Assist with 'building' of new cages and enclosures, general maintenance work at centre.

Talk to visitors and school groups, visit community projects.

Assist with assessment of monkeys for release, assess release sites, erecting release enclosures, capture and processing monkeys for release transporting monkeys/ animals to release site, monitoring pre & post release.



## A TYPICAL WORKING DAY

**07H00** Cleaning cages, preparing food and feeding of animals.

**09H00** Breakfast.

**10H00 – 13H00** Continue with feeding if not complete, check for injuries or any discomfort with casualties and report. Work on projects as specified by project leaders.

**13H00 – 14H00** Lunch.

**14H00 – 17H00** Afternoon programmes vary from building new enclosures, planting vegetables (for animals), checking animals in various stages of rehabilitation programme, collecting food, or sometimes having some time off to go on excursions or just personal time to do whatever volunteers want to do.

**18H00** Dinner.

**19H30** Feeding of nocturnal animals, if any at centre.



Other animals that volunteers can expect to see at the project include monkeys, jackals, tortoises, crocodiles, birds, small antelope, rabbits, ground squirrels, snakes.