

# MACKENZIE WHEATLEY

• ZOOLOGY STUDENT •

## ABOUT ME

Ambitious student completing a Zookeeping Technology (A.A.S.) degree and beginning a B.S. in Zoology, eager to contribute developed knowledge of animal husbandry and safety in a Cheetah Keeper/Conservation role. Adaptable and driven with a strong work ethic and ability to thrive in team-based or individually motivated settings. Diligent and hardworking with a passion for conservation, and promoting the utmost animal care to improve animal welfare in a zoological facility.

## EDUCATION

**Pikes Peak Community College - Colorado Springs, CO**  
**Associate of Applied Science**  
**Zookeeping Technology, Expected 12/2021**

**Oregon State University - Online**  
**Bachelor of Science**  
**Zoology, Expected 2025**

## EXPERIENCE

### Cheyenne Mountain Zoo

Guest Services

- Addressed and welcomed large volume of guests to zoo per day, improving overall customer service and engagement.
- Guaranteed guest satisfaction and positive experience through genuine, enthusiastic and friendly interactions.
- Educated guests regarding important information and directions to all areas of zoo, including exhibits, gift shop and restaurants.
- Supervised giraffe feedings to ensure safety of animal and guest.
- Impromptu keeper chats, sharing interesting species information to excite and inform zoo visitors.

2019-2021

### Lee Richardson Zoo

Animal Care Aide

- Preps diets independently for ~300 native & exotic animals. Follows specific diet requirements while prepping food to ensure the health of animals in captivity, only utilizing the freshest ingredients available.
- Prepares and maintains records for animal management and documentation.
- Using knowledge of animal husbandry, individual cares for animals by properly cleaning, feeding, designing exhibits, administering medicine, and creating enrichment.
- Knowledge and experience working with a large variety of species (black rhinoceros, reticulated giraffe, large hoofstock, red panda, Pallas cat, birds, monkeys, and more) including Class 1 carnivores (sloth bear, Amur leopard, snow leopard).

2021-  
Present

## SKILLS

2019 - COMPLETED MAMMAL HUSBANDRY & INTRODUCTION TO CAPTIVE ANIMAL MANAGEMENT COURSES

2020 - COMPLETED INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL TRAINING, ANIMAL BEHAVIOR, PRINCIPLES OF ANIMAL BIOLOGY, HERPETOLOGY, ZOONOTIC PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE, BIRD HUSBANDRY, & BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION COURSES

2021 - COMPLETED UNGULATES, WILD CANIDS, INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY, & APES COURSES

KEEPER CHAT & ETHOGRAM EXPERIENCE

KNOWLEDGE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT TRAINING, ENRICHMENT, AND ANIMAL/KEEPER SAFETY

FRIENDLY, POSITIVE ATTITUDE

RELIABLE AND TRUSTWORTHY

FLEXIBLE

FAST LEARNER

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

COMMUNICATION

GUEST ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES