

Personal Report - Joshua Bird

Role in group

In the first meeting I was allocated the role of group leader, with Thomas Hull being Deputy group leader. I believe this was due to the fact that I had already tried to contact the whole group before we had that meeting.

My main role in the group was to try and organise all of the group members and give them tasks to do, splitting up the workload into fair amounts between everyone. I did this by asking everyone what their strong and weak points were, and working around that decided and what parts of the project they should work on.

I completed sections of the work myself as well, such as the Gantt chart, this was used throughout as a guideline to follow, as it had milestones of what needed to be completed by when. I also completed a large portion of the final report myself, along with Dave and Phil.

Troubles encountered and resolution

Throughout the project I did encounter a few troubles, but this was expected. The main issue was probably working out what was needed of the final project early on. It was quite difficult to assign roles when I was not completely aware of what the full problem entailed. In order to solve this I read through the QA docs with Phil trying to break them down into easy to manage chunks of information, from that I was able to get an understanding of what was expected.

Another major trouble was time management, it was my role to make sure that I assigned work giving enough time for group members to finish that work in time for the deadlines. In order to try and solve this I tried to set tasks a bit earlier than necessary, and set deadlines for the group members earlier than the "official" deadline. The reason behind this was that it would give breathing room for the QA manager and I to look through the documents and update them where needed with enough time left to hand them in.

This leads to the next problem however, of group members not sticking to the dates I set, I would give them a deadline and without fail I would receive work later than I had planned, which made it difficult to manage the next set of documents. As the start of the first time I tried to be lenient because we had other assignments, however as time went on I had to insist on work being completed and I had to send multiple messages. This was after only managing to finish a document the night of the hand in.

I had a few issues with contacting group members, in order to solve that I had to find multiple ways of contacting a few of them, and had to send them messages as early as possible in order to get a response in time.

Overall success

Despite a few problems encountered along the way, I was pleased with the final product that we created. We had a project which performed all of the basic functional requirements, such as breeding/selling etc. I think that the group worked well together as the time went on and members became more confident talking between each other.

So to conclude, I believe that in the end we worked well as a team and achieved our goal. There are sections of the project that I think could have been improved on, but with the time that we had I think everyone performed very well.