

People who need to take extra care

Everyone (adults and children) should do what's recommended here, but **children under the age of five, pregnant women** and people who are **immunosuppressed** should be extra careful.

For children under the age of five:

ensure children wash and dry their hands after leaving an animal area

supervise children in animal areas to ensure they don't put their hands or fingers in or near their mouth, until after they have washed and dried their hands

dummies, toys, cups or bottles that fall on the ground or come into contact with the animals, their enclosures or their wastes must not be given back to the child until they have been cleaned thoroughly, or for babies up to six months, sterilised.

Help keep our animals healthy

Protecting the health of our animals is very important.

Treat the animals with respect. A calm and peaceful animal is less likely to bite or scratch.

Do not tease, annoy, chase, hit, poke or provoke any animal.

Just as germs can pass from animals to people, people can pass their germs onto the animals and make them sick.

If you are unwell with an infectious illness, for example with gastroenteritis, a cold or influenza, avoid contact with the animals.

Please enjoy your visit.

For more information

Health Protection Branch
Phone (08) 8226 7100
healthprotectionprograms@health.sa.gov.au

Communicable Disease Control Branch
Phone 1300 232 272
cddb@health.sa.gov.au

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/ProtectingPublicHealth



www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons

© Department for Health and Ageing, Government of South Australia.
All rights reserved.
Public-I2-A1



Contact with animals and your health

A guide for visitors





An animal exhibit is a wonderful opportunity to get close to nature

Enjoy seeing our animals, but it's important to know that animals can carry germs that can cause illness in people.

Your health is important to us, so please follow these basic health tips.

Health tips:

avoid kissing or bringing animals close to or onto the mouth

avoid placing your hands in or near your mouth until after you have washed your hands

do not eat or drink around animals

never sample, taste or eat animal feed, or drink the animals' water.

Your health is important

If you or someone you know becomes unwell in the days after your visit, see your doctor and mention that you have had recent contact with animals.

Wash your hands with soap and running water, then dry them

Wash hands after:

leaving an animal area, regardless of whether animals were touched

touching animals, their enclosures, their cages, their feed, their feed containers or their waste

being licked, bitten or spat on by animals (also wash affected area).

Wash hands before:

eating or drinking

any other hand to mouth activity such as smoking.

