

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR TROPICAL INC LIMITED

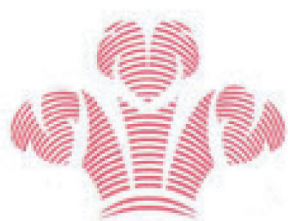


Animals in Presentation	Handled by whom?
Milk Snake	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff, (Audience given choice)
Corn Snake	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff, (Audience given choice)
Boa Constrictor	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff, (Audience given choice)
Lizards (Leopard Geckos)	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff
De-scented Skunks	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff
Meerkats	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff
Tarantulas	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff
Cockroaches	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff, (Audience given choice)
Other bugs and Insects	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff, (Audience given choice)
Amazon Parrot	Tropical Inc, reputable trained staff

All animals used in our presentations are Non-venomous and have been chosen particularly for their temperament.

To eliminate or minimize any risks or hazards, each animal is carefully selected and is correctly handled, contained and restrained by a highly trained Herpetologist, Stephen Rowlands. Any equipment and protective clothing needed is used, however for the animals we have in our presentation, these are not needed.

Each animal is used on a rotation basis with other like species from our own collection of animals, to reduce stress to the animal. We limit the handling time of each animal and limit the number of handling sessions in any one week, to allow normal feeding behaviour to take place. We are fully aware that a tired animal may become fractious and as the animals' health and safety are our main concern, we will never put the animal under known stressful situations.



Prince's Trust

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An animal will be removed from any handling sessions if showing any signs of stress or should it display any erratic behaviour, however because of the species we have chosen, this risk will be minimal.

We only use the amount of animals capable of being managed by the number of staff available for our presentations, this dramatically reduces the amount of animals used if only one presenter is available to reduce the risk of escape. Whenever possible two members of staff will be present per session to ensure escape is not permitted.

If escape does occur, which is highly unlikely in our case, our trained staff would invoke the standard escape procedure if the animal can not be easily found and returned to safety. Our animals are never left unattended. Each animal is put away in a secure suitable container, behind the display after each handling session. They are kept well away from the audience and are provided with food water and kept under adequate temperature controlled conditions.

We are fully aware that there will be some in our audiences that have allergies or phobias to the animals we present with. We will always advise that the audience are not obliged to have any interaction with the animals; that they will always have the choice whether to hold the snake or not. Those who are scared or do not want to go near the animals, simply stay seated. Stephen will make sure he keeps the animal away from them.

We supply anti-bacterial wipes in every presentation and will explain that that these are available for every person who interacts with an animal, outlining that there is a small possibility of contracting Salmonella virus from handling the snakes. It is recommended that the handler does not put hand to mouth or touch any other part of their face until they have used a wipe. We have a sign that enforces this risk and how to avoid it on display, however we have never had any reported cases; either from our staff or our audiences.

There is a potential for all animals to bite or scratch however our animals have been chosen for their placid and friendly temperaments. We explain the potential dangers and how to handle the selected animal, ensuring there will be no unsupervised handling. Control of the selected animal is always kept by Stephen and he will constantly guide the participant through the process, ensuring that the handler and the animal are calm and happy. We will not put any member of the audience or the animal through any traumatic situation.

We have fully first aid trained staff to assist in such rare occurrences. As none of the bites or scratches if any, will be life threatening, the wounds will be encouraged to bleed, washed with clean water and will be dressed. The casualty should then have medical attention. Although we have never had an incident of this nature; we are fully competent to deal with this eventuality should it occur.

