



# Fostering Empathy Through Programs: Peer Feedback

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_ Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Animals in program: \_\_\_\_\_

## Use of Empathy Best Practices

### 1. Did the program include expectations for audience behavior around animals?

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Draws connection of audience behavior to animal's comfort/safety
- Reinforces good audience behavior

### 2. Did the program reinforce that animals are individuals?

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Always uses animal's name and/or pronouns
- Highlights unique personality trait or individual story for each individual animal

### 3. Did the program inform about the animals' needs?

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Informs about animals' basic (survival) needs
- Informs about secondary needs of individual (to thrive at the zoo)
- Informs about secondary needs of species (to thrive in natural habitat)

### 4. Did the program highlight similarities and differences between animal and people?

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Compares or contrasts animal and people's basic needs
- Compares or contrasts animals and people's physical characteristics, age, etc.
- Compares and contrasts animal and people's secondary needs

5. **Did the program encourage focused observation of the animal?**

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Prompts focused observation of animal's physical characteristics
- Prompted focused observation of animal's behavior/movement
- Draws connection between animal's behavior and interpretation of animal's emotional experience
- Asks open-ended questions about audience's observations

6. **Did the program invite perspective-taking of animal?**

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Uses role playing/mimicry/physical movement
- Draws attention to the animal's perspective
- Asks open-ended questions about animal's behavior
- Prompts audience to take animal's perspective

7. **Did the program include an appropriate conservation or caring action?**

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Includes way for audience to help/care for animals
- Asks open-ended question about ways people can help animals
- Audience practices caring behavior

8. **Did the program reinforce that animals have their own agency?**

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Animal movements are not physically controlled
- Animals make own decisions and act by choice
- Draws attention to animal making choices

9. **Did the program reinforce that animals can have relationships?**

***What to look for (check all that apply):***

***Specific Examples/Notes***

- Interactions with other animal/person is observed
- Relationship between animals or animal/handler is highlighted

**10. Identify one area for improvement or additional opportunity to reinforce empathy:**