

Biofact Interpretation Observational Protocol and Rubric

Name of Instrument	Measuring Demonstrations of Empathy in biofact Interpretation
Use Case and Target Audience	-All age groups, all outreach events where biofacts are used in interpretation -Programming that uses biofacts as part of instruction
Theme	Assessment of empathy and caring actions in relation to biofacts and taxidermy presented for interpretation
Scheduled Implementation	In tandem with interpretation at events/ in classroom
Evaluation Questions Addressed with Assessment	-Do people demonstrate empathy and caring actions for animals based on interpretation and interaction with biofacts and taxidermy? -Does interaction with biofacts/taxidermy create opportunities for curiosity/story sharing among observers? -Can biofact interpretation/interaction lead to a desire for conservation action?
Outcomes Being Measured	Variable, see attached modified MECAP tool
Materials Needed	-People counter -Writing Implement, Clipboard -Coding Sheet for Empathy Best Practices (modified MECAP tool)
Data Analysis Plan	-Calculating the frequency of each Empathy Best Practice indicator (see in attached modified MECAP tool) -Qualitative information observed during the event/class
Staffing Requirements	-1-2 people to record observations, and analyze survey data (coding observations using modified MECAP tool)
Time Needed for Activity	Variable (Minimum one hour)
References and Resources	Modified from Clayton et al. (2013), Mayer and Frantz (2004), Measuring Empathy: A Collaborative Assessment Project (2019), Meehan et al. (2017), and Packer et al. (2018).

Type of Program: _____ Date: _____ Staff: _____ Volunteer #1: _____ Volunteer #2: _____ Volunteer #3: _____	Length of Interactions _____ hours _____ minutes Weather/Temp: _____ Number of Total Participants: _____ Number of Biofacts: _____ Type of Biofacts: _____ _____ _____
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#	Observations	X	Notes/Supporting Evidence
Understands the needs of the animal			
1	Talks about/expressed animal's basic needs (food oxygen, water, shelter, space)		
2	Talks about/expresses secondary animal needs (safety, health, comfort, emotional wellbeing)		
3	Compares self to animal or an animal to another animal		
4	Contrasts self to animal or an animal to another animal		
Able to consider perspectives of animals			
1	Predicts or speaks to animal's state, emotions, wants		
2	Verbally mimics animal, speaks in voice of animal		
3	Physically mimics animal behavior (biomimicry)		
Demonstrates appreciation or respect for animal			
1	Verbalizes appreciation, gratitude, or love for the animal		
2	Verbalizes positive feelings about animal's physical characteristics		
3	Demonstrates physical affection/appreciations		
4	Verbalizes negative feelings about the animal		
Demonstrates curiosity or interest in the animal			
1	Asks questions about the animal or seeks out information		

2	Shares personal story or fact about the animal		
3	Observes animal closely		
4	Expresses observations of the biofact		
5	Prolongs observation or repeated observation of the biofact		
6	Retreats or withdraws from the biofact, avoids contact		
Expresses desire to help animals individually or as a group			
1	Expresses concern for an individual animal's wellbeing after viewing biofact (Ex: did you kill it?)		
2	Expresses concern for an individual animal's wellbeing independent not related to biofact		
3	Expresses desire to take action/behave in a way that helps an individual animal		
4	Expresses concern for animals overall/as a group		
5	Expresses desire to take action/behave in a way that will help animals overall		
6	Shares beneficial actions with others		
Demonstrates caring behavior or beneficial action towards animal(s)			
1	Physical interaction/touch is gentle or appropriate		
2	Self-regulates behavior in response to signage or interpreter comments about biofact handling/touching		
3	Demonstrates intent to harm biofact, breaks or damages biofact		
Recognition of the animal as an individual			
1	Refers to animal by name/pronouns		
2	Greets or says goodbye to the animal (whole taxidermy)		
4	Speaks directly to the animal (whole taxidermy)		
5	Comments on/inquiries about animal's relationship with other animals or people		