

Coral World Animal Welfare Specialist Positions Overview (2 positions):

The animal welfare specialist teams at Coral World consist of a group of passionate and hard-working individuals who specialize in providing all aspects of daily care to our Lorikeets, Macaws, South American sea lions, and/or Atlantic bottlenose dolphins. Coral World Ocean Park is a unique, small, but growing marine park in a beautiful Caribbean setting on the U.S. Virgin Island of St. Thomas. We are seeking to hire additional members to join our animal care family who are willing to focus their training and skills in one of our three main areas (Tropical Birds, Sea Lions, and Dolphins) while also being open to diversify their skills to learn to assist with general needs of other assigned areas.

Animal Welfare Specialist (AWS) 2 - Associate Level

Areas of specialization include: Birds, Sea Lions or Dolphins:

- 1 position (Birds)
- 1 position (Area assigned pending applicant interest and experience)

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Reports to: Marine Mammal Manager or Assistant Curator of Marine Mammals & Birds

AWS 2 - Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree in psychology, biology or related scientific discipline (or a comparable level of education/experience that would provide the necessary knowledge to meet the minimum qualifications for the position)
- Minimum 2 years full time paid animal training experience
- Ability to work legally in the United States (Coral World does not provide visas for international applicants).
- Ability to lift 50 pounds and work outdoors.
- Ability to pass an annual, on-site swimming and physical conditioning test (outlined below).
- Rescue SCUBA certified or the ability to obtain certification within probationary period (6 months) in addition to submitting a dive physical report.
- Duties are frequently performed under physically demanding conditions and potentially hazardous environments, including working in close proximity with wild animals and handling potentially dangerous chemicals.
- Must be willing to work overtime, holidays, evenings, and weekends as requested by manager.
- Must be a team player and be able to get along with others.
A basic understanding of Microsoft Office software, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Preferred:

- Bilingual

AWS 2 - Duties and Responsibilities: (Including but not limited to)

- Responsible for performing all cleaning, food preparation, and recordkeeping duties performed by the Trainer 1 position, as well as regularly working marine mammals for interactive programs and public presentations.
- Assigned moderate to advanced training and animal handling tasks, under the guidance of senior staff.
- Expected to utilize their knowledge and experience during training scenarios, handling most behavior related challenges on their own with minimal supervision.
- May assist with staff scheduling, project management, intern coordination, or supply procurement.
- Assigned as the primary trainer to a specific animal, and is responsible for the training, maintenance, and health monitoring of that animal (reporting directly to the Assistant Curator).
- The active goal of a trainer in this position is to continue to develop their training skills and gain experience training advanced behaviors and troubleshooting complex behavioral problems.
- Plan and manage a daily schedule for the team with assistance from Senior staff
- Independently handle guest service-related issues
- Given the opportunity to lead Education Focus and Training Focus modules under the supervision of more senior staff.
- Work to develop leadership skills by assisting apprentice trainers, assistants, and interns with their professional development.

Please Note: These job descriptions in no way states or implies that these are the only tasks to be performed by the position. These positions will be required to follow any other job related instructions and to perform any other job related tasks as requested by their supervisor and/or manager.

Swimming and Endurance Test Annually Required for All Positions:

(No swim aids)

1. Head-first dive entry demonstration
 2. Swim 400 yards using any stroke in less than 10 minutes
 3. Tread water for 10 minutes with hands out of the water for the last 2 minutes.
1. Surface dive to 20 feet and retrieve 5-pound object.
 2. Swim underwater for a distance of 25 yards without surfacing.
 3. Tow a person of equal size on the surface of distance of 50 yards.

4. Upper body strength demonstration – proper technique pushups (male = 10, female = 10)
5. Core strength demonstration (2 min)– Plank exercise position with various combinations of arms and legs lifted. This is parallel to the ground with your torso straight and rigid, resting your weight on your toes and forearms. You should not be sagging or bending.