

# Animal Care Club News Letter

Issue 5, July 2020

## Intro

This is the last Animal Care Club News Letter of this academic year. It's been great being able to share the animals with the children and watch them gain confidence around the animals. This week we will take a look at the leopard gecko. Then it will be time to say good bye until September.

Fig 1. Citrus the leopard gecko.



## Leopard Gecko

Leopard Geckos are a popular reptile and need a smaller vivarium than some. They come out through the day but, do their main hunting in the evening. They can be a little shy with people. Citrus is used to being handled by the children. Oddly though she sees me as the bringer of food so is more reluctant for me to pick her up. She will back away and want to inspect me for food first.

She was about 6 months old when I got her and had been seized by the RSPCA due to poor conditions. Since having her she has gained weight and become quite a character.

## General Care

Like most geckos and lizards, Citrus lives in a heated vivarium with a warmer end for basking and a cooler end when they don't need to bask.

She also has two hides to get away from the crowds of the classroom when needed.

They eat live insects. Which has supplements sprinkled on top.

The movement of the insects trigger her to hunt, which is a fascinating thing to watch. She twitches her tail to distract the bugs, then gives one powerful strike, snapping them up into her mouth.



Fig 2. Citrus hunting for food.

# Animal Care Club News Letter

Issue 5, July 2020

## What Next

As this Academic year comes to an end we start to look to the future.

It is my hope to continue to offer the Animal Care Club. It may not look as it did before but the school core values will still be at the heart of the club, along with encouraging the pupils to have new experiences and a connection with the animals that we share the world with.

It is also my hope that I can team up with other departments to incorporate the animals in to their subjects, such as art, technology and others.

In the mean time I will continue to look after the animals in my house, and make lots of plans for our return in September.

May I take this time to wish you all a restful and safe summer holiday. I will leave you now with some photos of the animals.

Take care of yourselves.

Mrs Petrie

FUN FACT, Leopard geckos cannot see colour, but they can see light that we cannot.

Fig 3 Race night at home! Note crows were socially distanced.



Fig 4 baby fish bread during lock down.

