Right From the Start

Safety Basics
Attire

- Closed-toe shoes
- No dangling jewelry
- Long hair tied back
- Close fitting clothing
Attitude

- Responsible
- Calm
- Patient
- Determined
Flight Zone

- Safety zone
- Varies among animals
- Increases when an animal is excited or approached from the front
Approaching

- Always make animals aware of your presence
- Approach where the animal can see you
- Never approach from the animal’s blind spot
- Approach calmly and quietly
Danger Points

- Body Mass
- Head
- Feet
Equipment Risks

• Lead rope
  • Use cotton (not nylon)
  • Do not wrap lead rope around your hand tightly
  • Should be about 2 feet long; avoid tripping on lead rope
  • Let go if the animal pulls you off balance or pulls you to the ground

• Neck chains
  • Need plastic covering or leather hand grip; reduce pinching risk
Equipment Risks cont.

- Squeeze chutes
  - Maintain properly
  - Avoid pinch points
  - Tipping risk
- Grooming tools
  - Burns
  - Cuts
  - Wear gloves to protect your hands.
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