


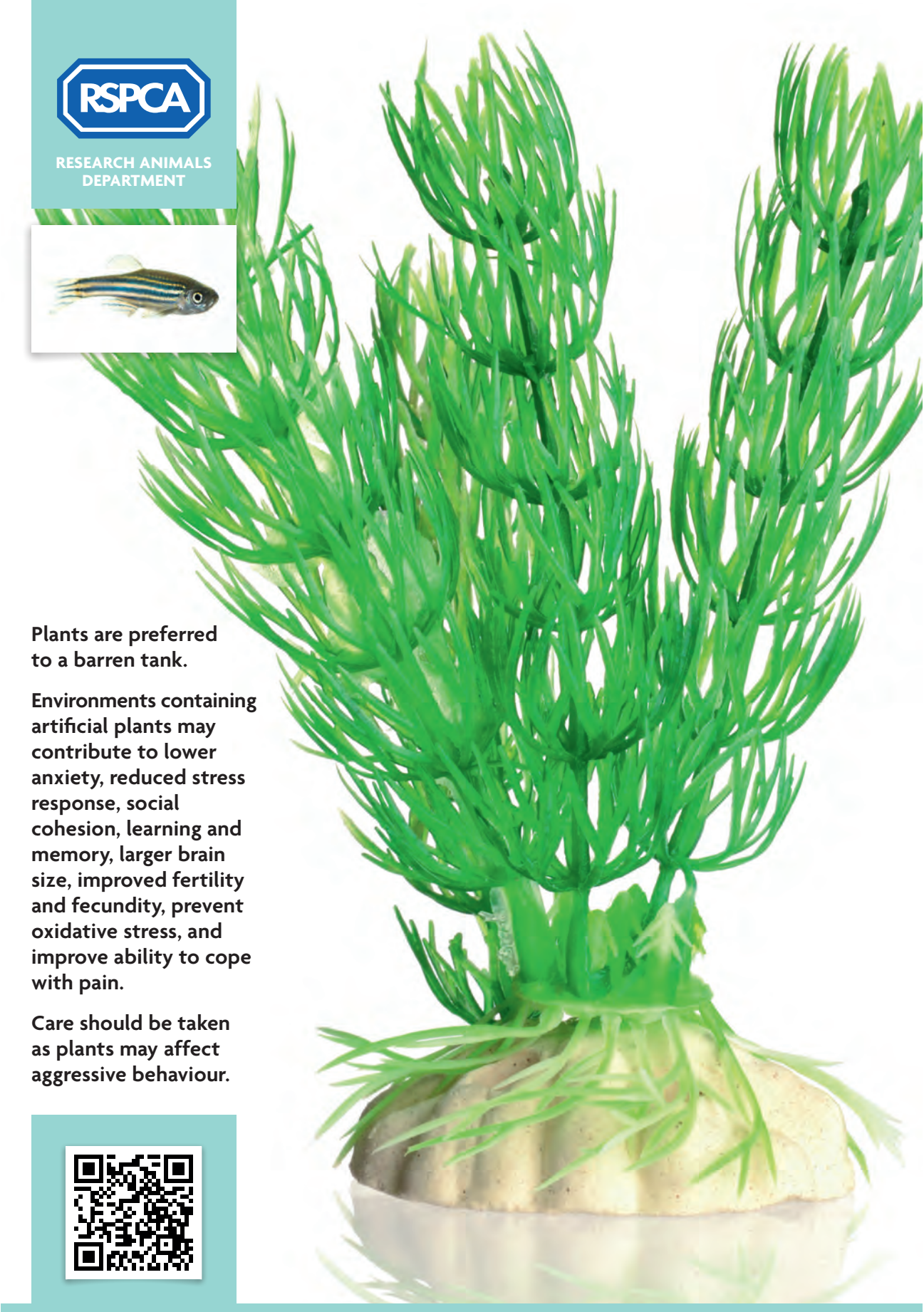


Wild zebrafish are found in habitats with a variety of vegetation, substrates and water flow rates.



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Plants are preferred to a barren tank.


Environments containing artificial plants may contribute to lower anxiety, reduced stress response, social cohesion, learning and memory, larger brain size, improved fertility and fecundity, prevent oxidative stress, and improve ability to cope with pain.

Care should be taken as plants may affect aggressive behaviour.




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Live food likely provides short-term enrichment by stimulating natural predatory behaviour.



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NB: organisms fed to zebrafish, such as rotifers or Artemia nauplii, are not considered to be sentient.







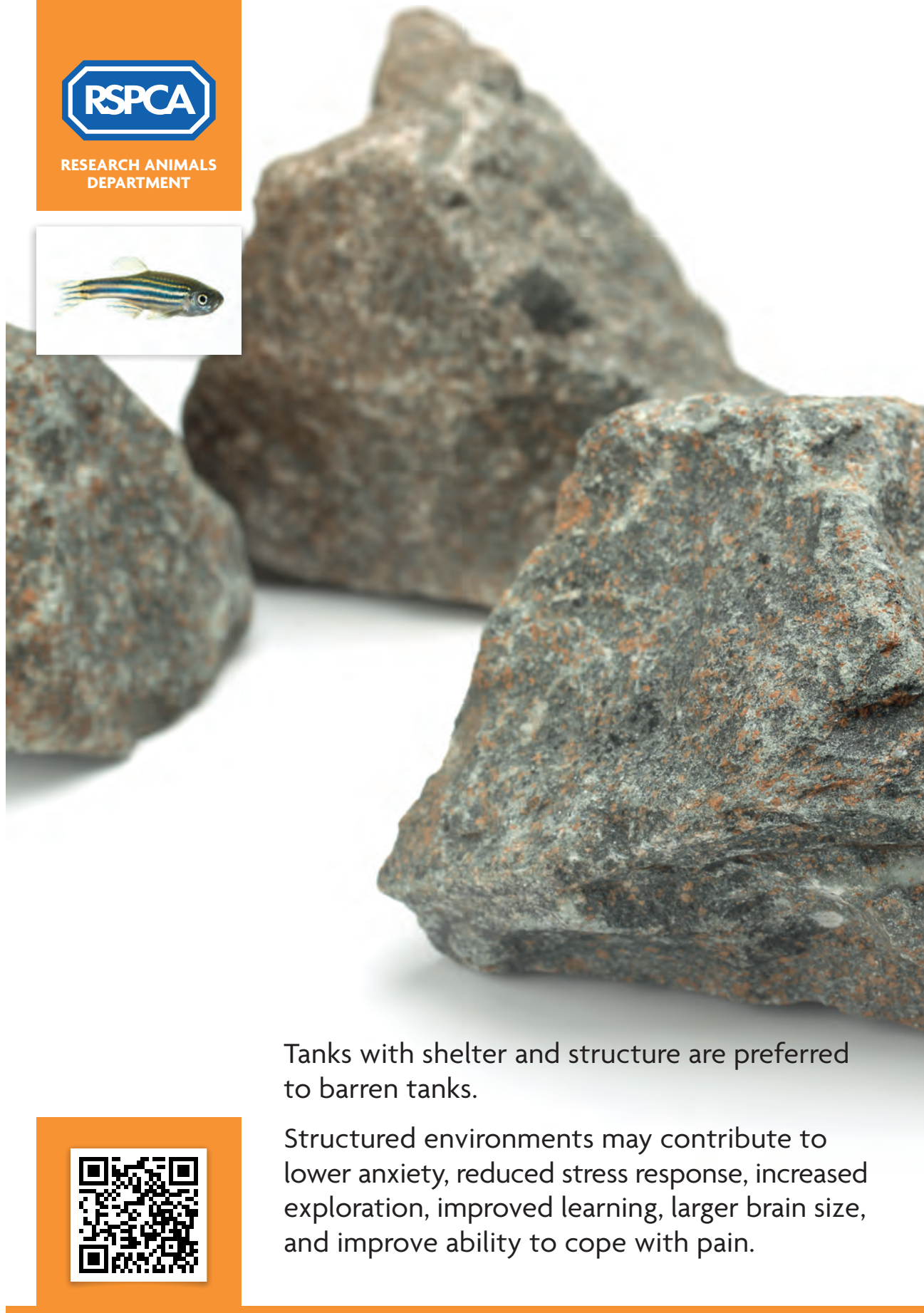

Gravel, sand, or even an image of gravel is preferred to a barren tank.

Environments containing substrate may contribute to lower anxiety, reduced stress response, larger brain size, larvae survival, prevent oxidative stress and improve ability to cope with pain.




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Tanks with shelter and structure are preferred to barren tanks.

Structured environments may contribute to lower anxiety, reduced stress response, increased exploration, improved learning, larger brain size, and improve ability to cope with pain.



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Group housing is preferred and contributes to lower anxiety and faster recovery from stress. More information is needed on preferred group sizes.

Aggression may be high in small groups of zebrafish (<6 individuals) so caution should be exercised and animals carefully monitored.

Where fish need to be housed alone or in pairs, using clear perforated barriers to maintain visual and olfactory contact and providing other enrichment such as plants, can help reduce stress.



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