

How to use SQL

Relational databases have more than one **table**.

Tables are linked using **fields** called **foreign keys**.

Databases often have many **records** and store lots of data.

We need a way to extract useful data from the database other than going through by hand...

id	name	species	age	gender	height	keeperID
001	Marg	Giraffe	12	F	4.7	001
002	Molly	Giraffe	6	F	4.4	002
003	Molly	Giraffe	5	F	4.2	003
004	Mike	Giraffe	14	M	5.1	001
005	Sammy	Giraffe	1	M	2.4	004
006	Rex	Lion	4	M	1.8	003

keeperID	keeperName	phone	e-mail
001	Ford	321	iford@thezoo.com
002	Wright	521	nwright@thezoo.com
003	Bufford	894	wbufford@thezoo.com
004	Ford	400	cford@thezoo.com

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Query Languages are used to search databases and to manage them.

The standard query language that you need to know a little of is **Structured Query Language** - or **SQL**.

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There are four SQL commands you need to be able to use:

1. `SELECT` - to search
2. `INSERT INTO` to add a record
3. `UPDATE` - to change the value in fields
4. `DELETE FROM` - to delete records

There are some precise syntax rules you need to know here...