

Theme 8



Animals

Literacy

Play a game of animal riddles. Describe an animal and have someone guess what animal you described.
This animal loves to relax in a muddy puddle.
It makes snorting noises when it eats.
It usually lives on a farm.
Do you know what it is?

Math

Make an animal legs graph. Use toy animals, pictures of animals from a magazine, or drawings of animals. Sort the animals by the number of legs they have. On small pieces of paper, write a numeral to show how many animals are in each group. Line the animals up by the numeral. Which group has the greatest number? Which has the least?

Outdoors

Visit a zoo, a farm, a park, or simply walk around the block. See how many animals you can spot. What was the biggest animal? What was the smallest animal? Did you see any animals that surprised you? Why did they surprise you?

Theme Job

Make an animal puppet. Use the puppet to tell stories and sing songs. Make a Paper Bag Pup or create your own puppet.

Paper Bag Pup

- What You Need**
brown paper lunch bag
marking pens or crayons
construction paper
glue
- What You Do**
1. Draw a face on the flap of the bag. (The bottom of the flap should be the pup's mouth.)
 2. Cut out a tongue and some ears from construction paper. Glue them in place.
 3. Put your hand inside the bag with your fingers extending into the flap.
 4. Move your fingers up and down to make the mouth move.

Calming Strategy

Imagine you are a dusty, hot elephant in need of a cool, refreshing bath. Enjoy this **Elephant Breathing** calming strategy.

- Interlace your fingers, and stretch your arms out in front of your body like an elephant's trunk.
- Bend down taking in a deep breath, and pretend to suck water in your trunk.
- Swing your trunk over one shoulder, and slowly exhale as you shower your back with water.
- Repeat several times alternating shoulders.