

TODDLER

Week

5

Smart Activities



SMART CHOICE. SMARTER CHILD.®

San Diego Zoo Tour

Materials: internet access, website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uTaL07EW3iw>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Watch and enjoy the San Diego Zoo Exhibit Tour with your child.
2. Discuss the animals that you saw and make the animals' sounds.



Dear Zoo

by Rod Campbell

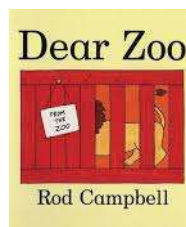
Materials: internet access, website:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_woMd8P-mM

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to this read aloud book with your child.
2. Ask questions related to the story, ex: "What animal would you want to visit first at the zoo?" "Would you like to feed the elephants?"

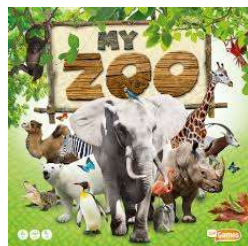


Build a Zoo

Materials: boxes, building blocks, pillows, various materials around the house, zoo animals

Instructions:

1. With your child, use your imagination and create your own zoo.
2. Move like animals and make animal sounds.
3. Take pictures of your zoo.



Zoo Snack

Materials: animal crackers

Instructions:

Enjoy a delicious snack while talking about zoo animals and their characteristics.



Good Night, Gorilla

by Peggy Rathmann

Materials: internet access, website:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1KI8S61bCn4>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to this read aloud book with your child.
2. Ask questions about the video, ex: "What kinds of animals were in the zoo?" "Do you know what sounds the animals make?"



Reid Park Zoo

Materials: internet access, website:
<http://reidparkzoo.org/cameras/elephant-cam/>

Preparation: Preview website.

Instructions:

1. View the different animals in their exhibits through live cameras.
2. Discuss what the animals and zookeepers are doing.



Roll and Move Animal Game

Materials: internet access, printed cards (see link), square tissue box, tape, website:
<https://s28301.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Zoo-Animal-Roll-and-Move.pdf>

Preparation: Print cards from link in instructions. Tape cards on tissue box.

Instructions:

1. Place link in the search box:
2. Roll the die, name the animal and complete animal movement. Continue until children lose interest.

*If you do not have a printer, you can draw the animals and write the actions on paper and tape your creations to the tissue box.



Zoo Animal Collage

Materials: construction paper, glue sticks, magazines (or pictures of zoo animals), scissors (child-sized)

Instructions:

1. Practice cutting and learning zoo animals by flipping through magazines and identifying animals.
2. Cut out zoo animals and glue on construction paper.
3. Praise children for their efforts.



Elephant Cam

Materials: internet access, website:
<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/webcams/elephants>

Preparation: Preview website.

Instructions:

1. Watch the elephants with your child.
2. Ask questions about what you see, ex:
“What were the elephants eating?”
“Which elephant was the mommy?”



That's Not My Elephant

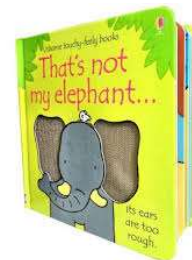
by Fiona Watt

Materials: internet access, website:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMec0f8czRw>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to this read aloud book with your child.
2. Ask questions related to the story, ex: “Who was looking for their elephant?” “What color was the elephant?”



Animal Tracks

Materials: animals, large construction paper (or 4-5 standard size sheets), paint (3-5 colors), paper plates, sponges (same number as paint colors)

Preparation: Place sponges on paper plates and pour paint onto sponges. If using standard size paper, tape pages together to create one large piece.

Instructions:

1. Allow children to dip animal paws, etc. into sponges and create tracks all over their paper.
2. Allow children to bring all types of animals.



Fine Motor: Straw Game

Materials: hole punch, old container (food storage, oatmeal, etc.), stickers, straws or pipe cleaners

Preparation: Use the hole punch to make multiple holes in the container.

Instructions:

1. Decorate container with stickers.
2. Practicing hand-eye coordination, place the straws through the holes. Continue while your child's interests remains.



Giraffes Can't Dance

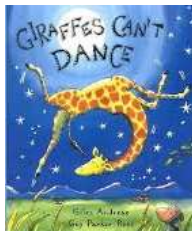
by Giles Andreae

Materials: internet access, website:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Bp2wiMu9xU>

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to this read aloud book with your child.
2. Ask questions about the video, ex: "Gerald was good at standing still, but what happened when he tried to run?" "At the party, what did all of the animals get a chance to do?"



Live Giraffe Feeding

Materials: internet access, website:
<https://www.houstonzoo.org/explore/webcams/giraffe-feeding-platform/>

Instructions:

1. Watch live feeding session and the giraffes in their exhibit. (The feeding times are typically 11:00am and 2:00pm.)
2. Discuss what the giraffes are eating and other things they are doing.



Feed Me: Zoo Literacy

Materials: container, dried pasta or rice, magnet letters, slotted spatula, zoo animals (if kids want to add others allow them)

Preparation: Ensure you have a letter to represent all animals. Pour pasta or rice, animals, and letters in container.

Instructions:

1. Pour pasta, animals and letters in container.
2. Encourage your child to play as a zookeeper who must feed the animals.
3. The animals' food will be the letter representing them. Use spatula to help find letters. Assist children in finding the correct letters.



Giraffe Instruments

Materials: dried beans, duct tape (or packing tape), glue, internet access, paint (yellow and orange), paintbrush, scissors, template (see website), toilet paper/paper towel tube, website:

<http://www.theschoolhousesite.com/soak-up-summer-reading-series-giraffes-cant-dance/>

Preparation: Gather materials.

***Adult supervision required for this activity.**

Instructions:

1. Walk and assist your child through the directions at the website above to make awesome Giraffe Music Shakers.
2. Use your Giraffe Shaker to make music and dance.



Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

by Bill Martin Jr and Eric Carle Jr

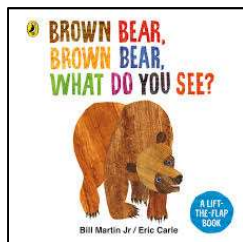
Materials: internet access, website:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5bW_US6vaw

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Listen to this read aloud book with your child.
2. Ask questions about the video, ex: "What color was the duck looking at the bird?" "Are horses on the farm blue?"



Magic Milk Experiment

Materials: cotton swabs, food coloring, liquid dish soap, milk, shallow dish bowl, small bowl

Instructions:

1. Pour milk in a shallow dish bowl, add five to six drops of food coloring.
2. Pour dish soap in small bowl, pour small amount of water in same bowl, and mix with cotton swab.
3. Place dipped cotton swab in center of milk dish. Watch how the food coloring reacts.
4. Continue to play and experiment in different ways (ex: different types of milk, mixing colors to make colors, etc.). Discuss what is happening.



Brown Bear Virtual Field Trip

Materials: internet access, website:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DA00e9_L_ss

Preparation: Preview video.

Instructions:

1. Watch this video with Brown Bear Facts with your child.
2. Discuss what you learned about brown bears today.



Bear Claws

Materials: black construction paper, brown paint (crayon or marker), glue, paper plates (2), scissors, stapler (or tape)

Preparation: Gather materials and cut out three small circles, one medium circle, and three claws from the black construction paper.

Instructions:

1. Paint or color the plates brown and staple/tape together (leave enough space to fit hands through bottom)
2. Glue paws in the middle and claws on top.

