“Zoo Animals”

What’s new in our class this week

We are learning songs, rhymes, and doing activities related to “Zoo Animals”

This week we will learn about zoo animals. We will talk about how bears that live in the zoo are different from the teddy bears we might have at home. We will also talk about how a lion is a cat, but is different from other cats we know about, like a tiger or a house cat.

Revisiting the Concept

Syllables in Words

We will review the concept of syllables in words and learn about compound words. A compound word is a word made of two smaller words—like “baseball” or “pancake”. We clap once for each short word in a compound word. For example, the compound word “sunshine” has two syllables or short words. “Sun” is one syllable and “shine” is the other. When you put them together, you form a compound word and a two syllable word.

New Letter

Big “K” and little “k”

Some “K” words we will talk about are Kick, Kite, and Kangaroo!

New Songs

“Baby Grizzly Bear”

“Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear”

Trophies Theme 18

Revisiting the Book: “My Mother is Mine” by Marion Dane Bauer

My Mother is Mine is about animal mothers and their babies. We will re-read the book and talk more about feelings. We will discuss how the young animals feel about their mothers. When we read this book, we will point to each word on the page. You can do this too when you read with your child. This will help your child learn to read from left to right and from top to bottom.

Letter Talk

“Letter Talk” is what we use to help children learn how to form letters!

Letter Talk for big ‘K’

Straight line down. Slant left and down. Slant right and down.

Letter Talk for little ‘k’

Straight line down. Slant left and down. Slant right and down.

Draw letters in the air, in shaving cream on the counter or in the tub!

Letters to review

**Try These Tips at Home**

Help your child learn more about: **Syllables in words**
- Clap the syllables of words you see on signs and billboards.
- When reading with your child clap the syllables of words on the page. See who can find the word with the most syllables.
- Write words on sticky notes that have one, two, or three syllables. Write the number 1, 2, and 3 at the top of each column. Have your child put the words in the correct column. For example the word *bird* has one syllable, so it would go under the number one. You can use family members names or names of zoo animals.

Teach your child about the letters: **K and k**
- Play a game with your child to see who can find the most words that start with the letter “K”.
- While reading with your child, after you read a sentence that contains a word that begins with a “K”, see if your child can tell you what word started with a “K”. Provide hints if needed.

Help your child learn more about: **Zoo Animals**
- Give clues about a zoo animal and have your child guess your animal. You might say “This animal can roar” and your child might guess a lion or tiger.
- Sing “Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear” using different animals you might see in the zoo.

**Books related to theme**

- **“1, 2, 3, to the Zoo”** by Eric Carle
- **“Dear Zoo”** by Rod Campbell
- **“Monkey and Me”** by Emily Gravett
- **“Peek-a-Zoo!”** by Marie Torres Cimarusti
- **“Where’s Chimpy?”** by Berniece Rabe

**Book Pick: “Bear in a Square”**

*by Stella Blackstone and Debbie Harter*

Using this delightful book with bright, bold colors, you can help your child learn about shapes, counting, and the direction in which you read the words on the page. You can also talk about the concepts of “real” and “make believe” because some pictures are real pictures, like the balls in a swimming pool and some are make believe such as moons in a cave. Best of all, you and your child will have fun learning together.

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