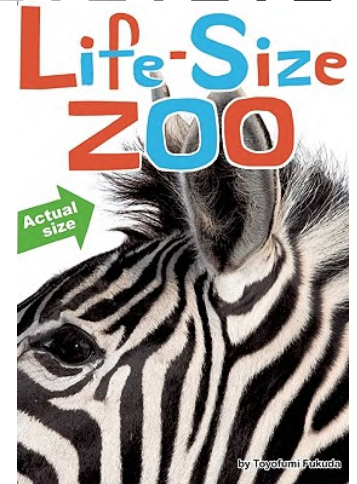


May 2013

Book of the Month

Life-size zoo : From Tiny Rodents to Gigantic Elephants, an Actual-Size Animal Encyclopedia by Komiya, Teruyuki.

This remarkable book begins with a map of the zoo showing where to find the animals that live there. Though it is filled with interesting animal facts, the star of the show here are the actual life-size photographs of animals. (Some *VERY* large!) Preschool and older.



Other fun books featuring *Animals*

Suryia and Roscoe: The True Story of an Unlikely Friendship by Bhagavan “Doc” Antle— Children will be naturally drawn to this exceptional story and the wonderful photographs accompanying it. Young school-age.

From Head to Toe by Eric Carle—Children can act out all manner of animals in this delightful book by the master of collage art. All ages.

Dancing Feet by Lindsey Craig—Very simple text and illustrations show leaves through the seasons. Toddlers and Preschoolers.

Who’s in the Forest by Phyllis Gershator—Infants and Toddlers.

Where’s Walrus? by Stephen Savage—The hilarity of the zookeeper’s chase after Walrus’s escape from the zoo will delight all readers. A wordless book for preschool and older.

If You’re Hoppy by April Pulley Sayre—An animal reworking of the old song. Very entertaining. Preschool.

The Animals are Sleeping Suzanne Slade—Very simple rhyming text conveys the many things we love about Fall. All ages.

Hi, Pizza Man! by Virginia Walter—Exactly *who* might deliver a pizza is the amusing question at the heart of this popular book for all ages.

Rhyme of the Month

My Pony

**Galloping, galloping, galloping,
How fast my pony can go,
When he's tired we'll come home,
Slow, slow, slow.**

(Encourage the children to gallop around the room and after a while slow down and return to sit.)

Poem of the Month

The Panther

The panther is like a leopard,
Except it hasn't been peppered.
Should you behold a panther crouch,
Prepare to say Ouch.
Better yet, if called by a panther,
Don't anther.

Ogden Nash



Free STARS trainings are listed at www.piercecountylibrary.org

Due to the new smaller class size requirement and ineffective pre-registration procedures of the past, the Pierce County Library STARS classes will open their doors a half hour early and will accept the first 50 people for each class. We appreciate your patience and understanding!

Learning Ideas for May:



Counting and Data Collection

At circle time, count the number of children present that day.



Count the girls

Count the boys



Count the number of children with curly hair



Count the number of children with brown eyes, blue eyes, green eyes, etc.



If possible, write these all on a chart for the children to see with the numbers across the top and the attributes along the side.



Talk about the numbers and what they mean. Brainstorm other things to count.

The Zoo

Collect some photos of zoo animals. (Or check out a zoo book from the library!) Show the children the photographs one at a time and talk about them together. What are they called, what noises do they make? Have the children ever seen one before? When and where?

Talk about the zoo. Why do we have zoos? What sorts of animals live in zoos? What sort of animals do NOT live in zoos? Encourage the children to share their experiences with the zoo.



Have Fun!

Animals

There are many animal activities that offer early learning skill development.

- Print off small photographs (perhaps four per 8½" by 11" sheet of paper) of animal adults and print off photographs of matching animal babies. Laminate these and mix them up. Place all the photographs on a table and encourage the children to match up baby animals with their grown animals.
- Using the same photographs (or adding others) encourage the children to sort the animals into "farm", "woodland" and "jungle".
- Or encourage the children to sort the animals into 'domesticated' and 'wild'.
- Place a number of small plastic animals into a bag. At circle time tell the children that you are going to create a classroom animal story. Begin the storytelling by saying, "Once upon a time..." and then pass the bag to a child sitting next to you. Each child pulls out an animal, adds to the story and then passes the bag to the next child. Tell again!

You can find a myriad of early learning information at our website:

<http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/>

(in the parents/caregivers section of the Kids/Teens menu)