

Family Newsletter

THIS MONTH'S THEME

A to Zoo

This month is a zoo journey featuring animals of the alphabet. Your child will enjoy pretending to be a zookeeper as they design habitats and care for animals. They will make a snapping alligator head and search for food to feed it. They will grunt and gesture like the great gorilla and use letter shapes to make animals. They will make their own set of giant moose antlers and explore fluffy sheep and llama wool. The fun of this zoo adventure doesn't end when they reach the letter Z; the knowledge will last a lifetime!



Look for the daily notes about your child's art projects!

Today I made bird puppets.

There are many poems and songs about birds. I made two bird puppets that help tell a story. I can use my "Little Birdies" and use my birds to read.

Today I designed a tiger mask.

No two tigers' stripes are alike. They are unique just like you and me. I created one of a kind tiger stripes on my mask and now I can pretend to be a tiger. Drawing lines across my paper helps build my fine motor skills.

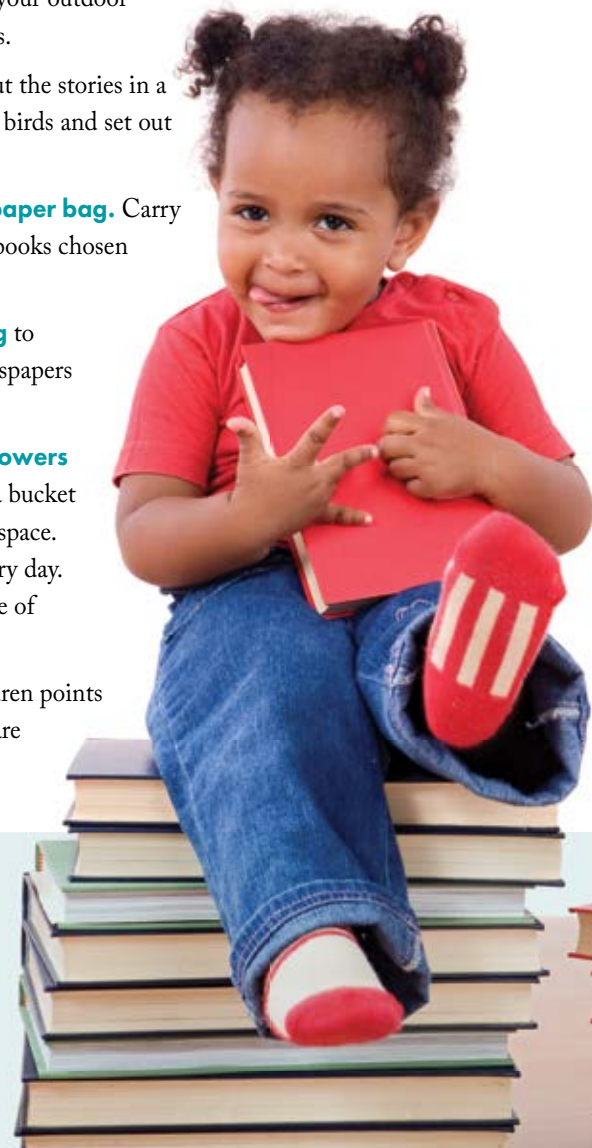
ASK ME: Did you make a pattern on your mask? How do tigers act?

Preschool

Reading Fun

Just as running in the wonderful weather exercises a child's body, reading helps exercise the mind. Keep your children reading this summer with these easy tips.

- **Fill a bucket with books** and take them outside with you.
- **Create a fun reading area outside** with a blanket hut or a tent that will encourage children to get cozy with a book.
- **Find books with photos of outdoor plants, animals or insects.** Take photos of your outdoor area and create your own photo books.
- **Set out props** to help children act out the stories in a book. For example, find a book about birds and set out some binoculars for bird watching.
- **Decorate a cotton bag or an old paper bag.** Carry the bag to the library and fill it with books chosen by the children.
- **Expand your definition of reading** to include comic books, magazines, newspapers and other forms of media.
- **Get a book about gardening or flowers and start a garden together.** Fill a bucket with dirt if you don't have gardening space. Water and read the plants a story every day. Watch the plants and your child's love of reading grow all summer.
- **Start a book club** and give the children points to buy small rewards each time they are "caught reading."



THIS MONTH'S FEATURED CONCEPTS

Letters A to Z

Shape Basic Shape Review

Numbers 19 & 20

Character Trait Helpful

A Is for Alligator 1

B Is for Bird 2

C Is for Camel 3

D Is for Dolphin 4

E Is for Elephant 5

S Is for Snake 16

T Is for Tiger 17

U Is for
Umbrellabird &
V Is for Vulture 18

W Is for Wolf &
X Is for X-ray Fish 19

Y Is for Yak &
Z Is for Zebra 20

Animals A-E

Topics your child
will explore this month:

A to Zoo

Animals F-K

6 F Is for Fox

7 G Is for Gorilla

8 H Is for
Hippopotamus

9 I Is for Inchworm

10 J Is for Jellyfish
& K Is for Kangaroo

11 L Is for Llama

12 M Is for Moose

13 N Is for Newt
& O Is for Otter

14 P Is for Polar Bear
& Q Is for Quail

15 R Is for Rattlesnake

Animals S-Z

Animals L-R



RECOMMENDED READS

Cuddle Up WITH A GOOD BOOK

ABC Animal Jamboree
by Giles Andreae

**Animal Alphabet:
Slide and Seek the ABCs**
by Alex Lluch

An A to Z Walk in the Park
by R.M. Smith

Alphabet
by Matthew Van Fleet

Eric Carle's ABC
by Eric Carle

Habitat Spy
by Cynthia Kieber-King



I Am an Animal

(To the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

Invite your child to think of other animals
to sing about and which words
to change to make it true for them.

**I am a gorilla, watch me play,
Munching on plants all the day.
When I want something I can sign to say,
"I am thirsty," or "Go away!"**

**I am a tiger, watch me run.
I like to play all day in the sun.
When I am hungry, I go for a hunt,
To find small animals for my lunch!**

**I am a dolphin, watch me play.
I love to swim and jump all day.
When I am hungry, I like to eat fish.
If you feed me, I'll do a trick!**

Animal Fun

OUT AND ABOUT

Visit some animals together as a family. It
can be a petting zoo, farm, aquarium or
even a pet store. Ask the caretakers what
they do to take care of the animals and
keep a safe environment.

AT HOME

Make a book
together about the
animals you would
like to have if you could
make your very own zoo.
Write about how you would
take care of them as
a family.

