

Jungle Animals

Tips, Songs, and Rhymes for Parents and Caregivers

Here are ideas and activities to try this week with your child. Each activity is based on one of the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles of early literacy development and is designed to engage your child, stimulate his or her literacy skills, and enhance the bonds between you.

- **SHARE BOOKS** Help your child find photos of jungle animals online, print them out, and paste them into a homemade book. Look up fun facts on the Internet, and print one or two facts for each animal by the photo. Read the book to your child, and then have your child read the book to you.
- **SHARE WORDS** Teach your child the names of jungle animal babies. For example, a baby lion is a cub, a baby monkey is a baby, a baby elephant is a calf, and a baby crocodile is a hatchling.
- **SHARE RHYMES** Play a fill-in-the-blank rhyming game with your child: I was walking in the jungle with my friend Brian, when all of a sudden, we saw a _____ (lion)! I was walking in the jungle with a bit of a limp when I turned around and saw a _____ (chimp)! I was walking in the jungle with my friend Jake, and we ran away when we saw a _____ (snake)!
- **SHARE SONGS** Change the words of a traditional song to be about jungle animals. For example, adapt the lyrics of “The Wheels on the Bus” to “The lion in the jungle goes roar, roar, roar” or “The monkey in the jungle goes ooh, ooh, ohh” and end with “all around the jungle.”
- **SHARE STORIES** Take a pretend trip to the jungle with your child and include what you need to pack, how you will get there, and what you will see.
- **SHARE PLAYTIME** Make up jungle riddles for your child to answer. For example: I was walking through the jungle, and I heard a mighty roar. It was a _____. I was walking through the jungle, and I saw something swinging through the trees. It was a _____.

- **SHARE WRITING** Print the names of jungle animals on 3 by 5-inch index cards, and tape a 12-inch piece of orange yarn to the side of each card to represent a tiger tail. Place the cards in a box with the “tails” hanging down the outside of the box. Invite your child to pull a tiger tail to see which animal he gets. Read the animal name to your child. Provide magnetic letters, and challenge your child to use the letters to copy the animal name.

Here are the words to the songs and rhymes that you and your child enjoyed today. By continuing to sing, chant, and play with your child throughout the week, you will help him or her make sense of the new information and concepts introduced at storytime.

Songs

Moving Hands

(sung to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”)

Put your hands on your head, *(Suit actions to words)*
Put your hands on your knees,
Put your hands behind you now,
If you please.

Put your hands on your tummy,
Put your hands on your toes,
Put your hands upon your cheeks,
Put them on your nose.

Put your hands in the air,
Put your hands on your hair,
Clap your hands, one, two, three,
Then fold them on your knees.

Crocodile Song

She sailed away on a bright, sunny day,
On the back of a crocodile.

(Hold hands together and move them like a crocodile swimming)

“You see,” said she, “he’s as tame as he can be,

(Have one hand “pet” the other hand)

I’ll ride him down the Nile.”

Oh, the croc winked an eye when she bade them all good-bye,
(Wink or point to eye; wave goodbye)

Wearing a happy smile. *(Point to your smile)*

At the end of the ride, the lady was inside, *(Rub tummy)*

And the smile was on the crocodile! *(Point to your smile)*

Tips, Songs, and Rhymes for Parents and Caregivers

Down in the Jungle

(sung to the tune of “Down in the Meadow/Three Little Fishies”)

Down in the jungle where nobody goes,

(Point index fingers on both hands down)

There’s a great big gorilla washing his clothes,

(Hold hands to show “big”)

With a rub-a-dub here and a rub-a-dub there, *(Rub hands together)*

This is the way he washes his clothes.

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie boo!

(Clap to beat; on “boo,” throw hand up in air)

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie boo!

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie boo!

That’s the way he washes his clothes!

Down in the jungle where nobody goes,

(Point index fingers on both hands down)

There’s a slithery snake washing his clothes,

(Move hand like slithering snake)

With a rub-a-dub here and a rub-a-dub there, *(Rub hands together)*

This is the way he washes his clothes.

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie sss,

(Clap to beat; on “sss,” open hands like mouth and make “sss” sound)

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie sss,

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie sss,

That’s the way he washes his clothes!

Down in the jungle where nobody goes,

(Point index fingers on both hands down)

There’s a great big crocodile washing his clothes, *(Put hands together like a crocodile mouth and make snapping motion by lifting up one hand)*

With a rub-a-dub here and a rub-a-dub there, *(Rub hands together)*

This is the way he washes his clothes.

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie snap,

(Clap to beat; on “snap,” snap hands)

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie snap,

Boom boodie, boom boodie, boogie woogie snap,

That’s the way he washes his clothes!

Willoughby Wallaby Woo

Willoughby wallaby wee, *(Pat thighs to beat)*

An elephant sat on me. *(Point to yourself)*

Willoughby wallaby woo, *(Pat thighs to beat)*

An elephant sat on you. *(Point to another child)*

Willoughby wallaby waustin, *(Pat thighs to beat rest of verse)*

An elephant sat on Austin.

Willoughby wallaby waria,

An elephant sat on Maria.

Willoughby wallaby wee,

A kangaroo hopped on me.

Willoughby wallaby woo,

A kangaroo hopped on you.

Willoughby wallaby wabrielle,

A kangaroo hopped on Gabrielle.

Willoughby wallaby wevan,

A kangaroo hopped on Evan.

(Continue the song with other zoo animals and children’s names)

Library Storytime Song

(sung to the tune of “I’ve Been Workin’ on the Railroad”)

I came to my storytime

(Sway from side to side throughout and point to self)

At the library today,

I came to my storytime *(Point to self)*

To sing, and laugh, and play.

I listened to some picture books,

Sang songs, said some rhymes,

I hope I can come back again,

Because I had a very good time!

I want to come back, *(Clap!)*

I want to come back, *(Clap!)*

I want to come back to storytime!

I want to come back, *(Clap!)*

I want to come back, *(Clap!)*

To my storytime!

(Spoken) See you soon! *(Wave goodbye)*

Rhymes

Five Silly Monkeys

Five silly monkeys *(Hold up five fingers)*

Swingin’ on a vine, *(Swing fingers)*

Laughin’ in the treetops

Everything was fine.

But then the wind blew, *(Put hands beside mouth and blow)*

One monkey fell—

There were five monkeys, *(Hold up five fingers)*

Now there are four. *(Fold down one finger)*

Additional Verses

Four silly monkeys ... *(Repeat motions for other verses)*

Three silly monkeys ...

Two silly monkeys ...

One silly monkey

Swingin’ on a vine,

Laughin’ in the treetops,

Everything was fine.

But then the wind blew,

The monkey fell—

No more monkeys,

That’s the end of this tale! *(Hold fist up)*