

JANUARY

THEME: Awesome Animals **FOCUS:** Children learn about life science through the exploration of animals and animal life cycles.

ALPHABET KNOWLEDGE

I, J, K & L

What animals can you name that start with these letters?

LET'S GET PHYSICAL!

Hop like a grasshopper 10 times!
Gallop like a horse!
Fly like a bee!

TALK ABOUT IT

Use sentence starters to help children use complete sentences in discussions about animals.

The animal I am most like is...

If I could be any animal in the jungle...

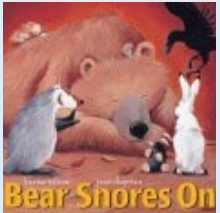
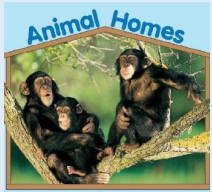
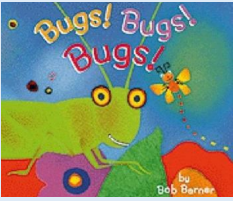
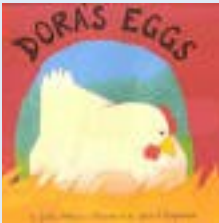
The best pet would be...

An elephant and a mouse...

Insects can...

VOCABULARY WORDS

Feathers
Climb
Burrow
Nest
Antenna
Wings
Develop
Stage

BOOK LIST	 By: Karma Wilson	 By: Betsy Chessen	 By: Bob Barner	 By: Julie Sykes
DISCUSSION TOPICS	Talk about different kinds of animals and what makes them different.	Discuss the different types of homes animals live in.	Talk about the characteristics of insects and how they are similar and different.	Discuss how animals grow and how some animals are similar to how we grow.
CREATIVE ART IDEAS	ANIMAL CHARACTERISTIC CHART: Cut out different images of animals and create a chart, sorting them by characteristics.	MAKE A BIRDS NEST: Make a birds nest using a paper bag and other nest-like materials.	CATERPILLAR PATTERN CRAFT: Using craft puffs or colorful cotton balls, make patterns in the shape of a caterpillar's body.	LIFECYCLE OF A BUTTERFLY: Divide a paper plate into four sections, in each section draw each stage of a butterfly lifecycle.

ENHANCED LEARNING

LEARN THROUGH PLAY

- Play stuffed animal hide and seek.
- Crawl around like a creepy, crawly insect.
- Pretend to be a bear, make a fort as your den.
- Play charades with animal charades cards.

MATH AND SCIENCE

- Practice putting objects in order, biggest to smallest.
- Practice using time words like, before, after, during, today, tomorrow, yesterday.
- Match pictures of baby animals with their parents.
- Create a pet care box equipped with all you'll need to take care of your pet (real or pretend).

BULLETIN BOARD

READY! for Kindergarten winter sessions will be starting up in February!
Stay tuned for dates.

Check out monthly *Cinnamon's Classroom* videos on our YouTube page @homecityfamilies.

