



## Unit 3: Awesome Animals

### Week 9: What Animal Would You Be?



**LENGTH OF AT-HOME ACTIVITY:** 10 to 15 minutes

**YOU'LL NEED:** The book *What Do You Do With A Tail Like This?* by Steve Jenkins and a pencil or crayon

#### ACTIVITY STEPS:

**START** by telling your preschooler that this is the last week that you will be reading *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* See if your preschooler can identify his or her favorite parts of the book.

**ASK QUESTIONS** and wait 3-5 seconds for an answer. Example questions:

Which animal has been your favorite in this book? Why?

What would you do if you had a tail?

If you could pretend to be an animal, which one would you choose? Why?

**SING** this song with your preschooler! Help him or her make up the melody and hand motions to go along with the words. (Subtract 1 monkey from the first line each time you sing it!)

Five little monkeys swinging from a tree,  
Teasing Mr. Alligator -- "you can't catch me!"  
Along came Mr. Alligator, quiet as can be,  
And snapped that monkey right out of that tree!

**READ** *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* with your preschooler. If you like, focus on the pages about animals' feet and mouths!

**PLAY** Guess The Animal with your preschooler as you read. See if your preschooler can identify the animal by just its mouth or feet!

**TALK** with your preschooler about the way that his or her feet and/or mouth are similar to or different from the animals in the book. Here are some questions you might ask:

What do you use your feet for?

How do animals use their feet? Is this the same or different from the way that you use your feet?

What do you use your mouth to do?

**SOUND OUT** words such as "feet," "tail," and "you." Make sure to congratulate your preschooler for good reading!

**COUNT** with your preschooler. You can count the number of animals in the book, the number of toes on each animal, or whatever your preschooler would like to count.

**FOLLOW UP ACTIVITY:** Choose a sense discussed in the book and focus on it with your preschooler. For sense of smell, have your preschooler close his or her eyes and try to guess different scents. For sense of taste, have your preschooler try to guess what he or she is eating without looking. Create a fun activity to do with your preschooler!

**WRITING EXTENSION:** On the back of this page, help your preschooler write and illustrate a sentence or two about what it would be like to live in the forest or under the sea like an animal.