



## Unit 3: Awesome Animals

### Week 8: What If I Had A Tail?



**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 you are going to continue reading *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* Ask your preschooler to remember what he or she learned the last time you read the text.

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

What do you remember about this book?

What was your favorite part the last time we read it together?

**INVESTIGATE.** With your preschooler, look out a window and watch an animal that has a tail (or watch a video on the internet) and talk about what the animal does with his or her tail. What would you do if you had a tail? Would it be in your way? Would it tell other people that you are happy or scared?

**READ** *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* with your preschooler. You do not have to read the entire book. This week try focusing on the pages about tails and eyes!

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

**TALK** with your preschooler about the way that his or her eyes are similar to or different from animal eyes. Here are some questions you might ask:

What do your eyes help you do?

What do animal eyes help animals do?

Some people wear glasses. Do animals wear glasses? Why or why not?

**CONNECT** what you're reading to what your preschooler already knows. If you have visited the zoo, remind your preschooler about the animals that you saw together. If you have read another book with animals, talk about how that book is similar to this book.

**DISCUSS** beginning word sounds. Give your preschooler a chance to choose whether two words sound similar or different. For example, you could ask, "Does *skunk* begin with the same sound as *scorpion*, or as *monkey*?"

**FOLLOW UP ACTIVITY:** Grab a flashlight and show your preschooler how to make animal shadow puppets in a dark room. What animals can you come up with?

**WRITING EXTENSION:** On the back of this page, help your preschooler write and illustrate a sentence or two about what he or she thinks it would be like to be an animal.