



Unit 3: Awesome Animals

Week 7: What Do You Do With A Tail Like This?



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 read a new book today: *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* Help your preschooler make predictions about the book.

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

What do you think this book will be about?

What animals can you think of that have tails?

Why do you think people don't have tails?

READ this poem with your preschooler! Talk about how silly it is.

Eletelephony by Laura Richards

*Once there was an elephant,
Who tried to use the telephant--
No! No! I mean an elephone.
Who tried to use the telephone--
(Dear me! I am not certain quite
That even now I've got it right.)*

*Howe'er it was, he got his trunk
Entangled in the telephunk;
The more he tried to get it free,
The louder buzzed the telephee--
(I fear I'd better drop the song
Of elephop and telephong!)*

READ *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* with your preschooler. You can focus on the first five pages (introduction, nose, and ears) during this reading, unless your preschooler wants to keep going. There's plenty to talk about in just those first few pages!

PLAY Guess The Animal with your preschooler as you read. See if your preschooler can identify the animal by just its nose or ears.

TALK with your preschooler about the ways his or her ears and nose might be similar to or different from the animals in the book. Here are some questions you might ask:

What do you use your ears for?

What do you use your nose for?

How are your ears like the animal's ears?

How is your nose like the animal's nose?

COUNT. Have your preschooler pick a distinguishing feature on an animal (such as a long nose or big feet) and then go through and count the animals in the book with that feature.

FOLLOW UP ACTIVITY: Pretend with your preschooler. Can you walk around your house like an elephant or slither around like an alligator?

WRITING EXTENSION: On the back of this page, help your preschooler write and illustrate a sentence or two about some of the things he or she either hears or smells during the day.