

Unit 3: Awesome Animals
Week 9: What Animal Would You Be?

Objectives:

To read *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* with your preschooler, talk about animal feet and mouths, and read together!

Materials:

A copy of *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page

Week 9 Lesson Steps:

1. 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 favorite animals or parts of the book.

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?

Introduction/Ice Breaker

Sing this song with your preschooler and make up had motions.

Five Little Monkeys

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

Four little monkeys...

Three little monkeys...

Two little monkeys...

One little monkey...

2. Read *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* with your preschooler. You can choose to focus on the pages about animal feet and mouths!

Fun and Easy Reading Tips:

- Play guess the animal with your preschooler. See if your preschooler can identify the animal by just its mouth or feet!
- Answer questions that your preschooler has about the animals he or she may never have seen before by referring to the informational pages in the back of the book.
- Talk with your preschooler about how his or her feet and mouths are similar to or different than an animal's. 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?
- Help your preschooler sound out frequently occurring words such as “the,” “a,” “to,” 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, whatever you’d like!

Conclusion:

Today you read *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* with your preschooler and discussed animal mouths and feet. You are helping your preschooler get ready for kindergarten!

Follow-Up Activity:

Choose a sense discussed in the book and focus on it with your preschooler. For sense of smell, have your preschooler try to guess different scents. For sense of taste, have your preschooler try to guess what he or she is eating. Create a fun activity to do with your preschooler!

Writing Extension:

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.

Early Developmental Standards Taught in Week 9

- Use one-to-one correspondence to accurately count up to 10 objects in a scattered formation.
- Describe and identify the similarities, categories, and different structures of familiar plants and animals.
- Show awareness of conventional letter-sound relationships through use of invented spelling in writing.
- Demonstrate word awareness by identifying familiar words in books and the environment and begin making connection that letters in words make sounds.