



**Learning Project – Week 4 - Animals**  
**Early Years (Pre-school and Reception)**

**Maths Ideas (aim to do 1 per day):**

- Watch an episode of 'Numberblocks' at: [BBC](#) or [CBeebies](#).
- Play this counting [game](#). Count how many of each animal you can see.
- Practise counting **backwards** from 20. This can be done through playing hide and seek, singing number songs, chanting, board games etc.
- Use the 'Tens Frames' or 'Five Frames' on this [game](#) and practise recognising amounts. This can also be done by reading a dice when playing board games, playing with cards, identifying how many food items on the plate etc. This can be done by reading a dice when playing board games, playing with cards, identifying how many food items on the plate etc.

**Reading Ideas (aim to do 1 per day):**

- Read a variety of books at home. Favourites can be repeated. Hearing the patterns of language in a story will support your child's language development.
- Reception age children: Children to read to parents daily. Visit Oxford Owl for free eBooks that link to your child's book band. You can create a [free account](#). Complete the linked Play activities for each book.
- With your child, look in magazines, newspapers and books for the tricky words they are currently learning. They could use a highlighter to highlight in magazines and newspapers.

**Phonics Ideas (aim to do 1 per day):**

- Sing Nursery Rhymes and songs together. Add in actions and change the words. Can children think of different rhyming words to add in? Repeat old favourites and learn new rhymes. You can find an A-Z of Nursery Rhymes [here](#).
- Daily phonics - Practice the sounds your child is working on and blend words. This can be oral blending (e.g. spoken out loud c-a-t) or written if appropriate. [Interactive games](#).
- Play this [animal sound match game](#).
- Sing the song, 'Old McDonald Had a Farm'. Instead of saying the name of the animal, make the sound. Can your child figure out which animal it is? Reception age children could write the digraphs/ trigraphs they can hear in the song e.g. ee, igh, ee, igh, oa

**Writing Ideas (aim to do 1 per day):**

- Practice name writing. Can they write their first name? Middle name? Surname?
- Practice forming the letters of the alphabet.
- Draw an animal of your choice. Label the parts of the animal. Reception children could create a fact file e.g. where does it live? What does it eat?



### **Big Project Ideas (can be completed throughout the week)**

- **Read the story, '[Dear Zoo](#)' or watch the online video -**
  - Visit the book's website and play the [interactive games](#)
  - Add your own animal into the story and label it e.g. So they sent me a... hedgehog, but he was too prickly....so I sent him back.
  - Choose a soft toy animal or small animal figure and create a junk modelled container for it.
  
- **Identify the birds in your garden-**
  - Use the [RSPB](#) bird identifier website
  - Draw a picture of the birds you can see.
- **Play animal charades-**
  - Take it in turns to act as different animals. Add in noises as a clue...
  
- **Learn the song, '[The Animals Went in Two by Two](#)'**
  - Ask your child to draw out two of each animal and practice writing the numeral 2.
- **Looking after your pet-**
  - If you have a pet at home encourage your child to take part in their daily care. They could help feed, groom and clean up after your pet.
- **Big and small animals-**
  - Draw as many big animals as you can on one piece of paper and as many small animals as you can on another sheet of paper. Some children may be able to write a list as an alternative.
- **Find all of the animal books in your house-**
  - Ask your child to look through the books in your house and to find any with animals on the front cover. Ask them to sort the books into groups of their choice e.g. animals that can fly, swim, big, small, live on a farm/ at the zoo.
- **Create an animal den-**
  - Provide your child with blankets and sheets to make an animal den. Act out being an animal in the den.



### **Additional Resources**

Here is a list of other online resources that you may wish to explore with your families.

<b>Online resources:</b>	<b>YouTube Channels:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- BrainPop</li><li>- Curiosity Stream</li><li>- Tynker</li><li>- Outschool</li><li>- Creative Bug</li><li>- Discovery Education</li><li>- Phonicsplay – lots on here for all phonics phases</li><li>- Twinkl Parents – access to lots of free resources, you can select topics and subjects within age groups</li><li>- Tes resources</li><li>- Teacher’s Pet – free home learning resource packs</li><li>- Top marks – online games filtered by age and subject</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Crash Course Kids</li><li>- Science Channel</li><li>- SciShow Kids</li><li>- National Geographic Kids</li><li>- Free School</li><li>- Geography Focus</li><li>- TheBrainScoop</li><li>- SciShow</li><li>- Kids Learning Tube</li><li>- Geek Gurl Diaries</li><li>- Mike Likes Science</li><li>- Science Max</li></ul>