

Did you know...



Children are very curious about the world around them. They want to know about the weather, how things work, facts about animals, etc. Nonfiction, or information books, help children learn about the things that interest them.

Nonfiction books should have a lot of photos or drawings to help children see what they are reading about. If there are a lot of words on each page it isn't necessary to read every one. Read the main points on each page and then ask questions to see what your child is interested in.

Don't hesitate to read the higher level vocabulary that is often in nonfiction books. Your child needs to be exposed to a variety of vocabulary words to have the background knowledge they will need to succeed in school.

Here's how...

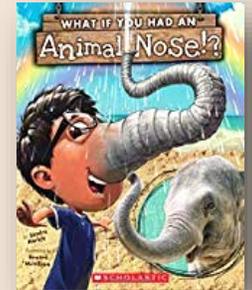


- ✦ Make opportunities for your child to be out in the natural world. Take walks through the woods, splash in a creek, go to a park. Children this age love to explore, so get outside and enjoy some time in nature.
- ✦ Go to your local library and check out books about the things your child is interested in. Whether it is dinosaurs or the solar system, libraries can provide a wealth of books about any topic.
- ✦ Ask your child questions about the book by having them look at the pictures. They provide a lot of clues about the content of the book.

Read



“What if You Had an Animal Nose!?” by Sandra Markle



If you had a warthog's nose, you would never need anything but your nose to build sand castles! Introduce your child to some unusual animals and learn how they use their noses to help them survive.

Other books in this series:



Choose Books



Some nonfiction books to look for at your public library:

“Beauty and the Beak” by Deborah Lee Rose and Jane Veltkamp

“Prickly Hedgehogs!” by Jane McGuinness

“In the Past” by David Elliott

“Thank You, Earth” by April Pulley Sayre

“Who Am I? An Animal Guessing Game” by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page

“I’m Trying to Love Spiders” by Bethany Barton





- Information books and magazines can play an important part in motivating children to read.
- There are some great, high-quality information books available for children of all ages.
- Many kids enjoy information books as much as story books.
- Nonfiction can be a way for parents to share their interests with their children.
- Information books expose children to special vocabulary and concepts, which helps build language.
- Reading nonfiction now can help children prepare for reading these types of books later in life.

Write



Homemade books are a great way for your child to practice writing. Staple several sheets of paper together and help your child make a “My Favorite Animals” book. On each page your child can draw a favorite animal, then write the phrase “I like _____ because _____. Writing repeated simple phrases such as this one helps children become confident writers.

I like cats because they purr.



Play



Stuffed Animal Picnic

Even though life can be very busy it’s so important to spend a little time playing with your child each day. Consider turning lunchtime one day this month into an indoor picnic for you, your child, and some of their favorite stuffed friends. Pack a simple lunch in a basket, then go on a “safari” through the house to find your perfect picnic spot. Lay out your picnic and enjoy some down time together.



Sing



BINGO

There was a farmer had a dog,
And Bingo was his name-O.

B-I-N-G-O!

B-I-N-G-O!

B-I-N-G-O!

And Bingo was his name-O!

There was a farmer had a dog,
And Bingo was his name-O.

(Clap)-I-N-G-O!

(Clap)-I-N-G-O!

(Clap)-I-N-G-O!

And Bingo was his name-O!

Continue clapping one more letter in each verse, until you are clapping for all five letters.

You can hear the tune and watch a video at

<http://bussongs.com/songs/bingo.php>



At your library...



Idaho Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is “*Find it at your library.*” Libraries across the state are planning fun events that celebrate family reading, and showcase all the great things you can find at your local library.

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week, November 11—17, 2018.