

Did you know...



Children love to learn about and explore the world around them. Information, or nonfiction, books are one way they can do this. Information books contain photos or drawings that show animals, vehicles, people, etc., that help them make connections to what they see and hear. Information books also introduce children to a lot of words that will help build their vocabularies. Knowing many words will help your child recognize and understand written words and language when it is time to learn to read.

Some information books have more words than young children can sit and listen to. It is okay to look at the pictures and talk about them or to read the main text on the page without reading all of the words. Young children like to point to things that interest them, so take that as a clue about what to spend time on while you read information books.

Here's how...

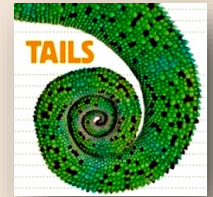


- ✦ Create a book that has pictures of family, friends, and pets by using a photo album, scrapbook, or gluing pictures onto sheets of paper. Write each person's name next to their picture and let your child look at it often to learn familiar people's names.
- ✦ Check out books from your local library about the things your child is interested in. Is it cars, dogs, or balls? You can search by topic in your library's catalog for the things your child loves.
- ✦ Information books can teach concepts such as numbers, colors, shapes, opposites, etc. It is good for your young child to be introduced to these concepts so they are familiar with them when they go to school.
- ✦ Find information books in the language you speak at home.

Read



Tails (Whose Is It? series), by Katrine Crow

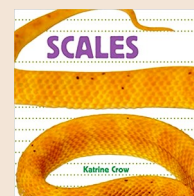
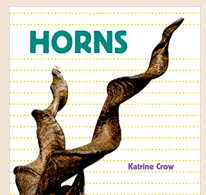
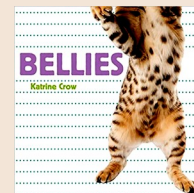


Who has a colorful tail like this? Turn the page to find out! But these tails don't belong to your everyday backyard animals... These bright photographs contain some pretty amazing creatures!

Choosing Books



Other books in the *Whose Is It?* series:



Talk



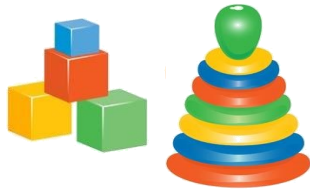
Go for a walk in your neighborhood and look for animal's tails. Use lots of fun words to describe the different kinds of tails. "Look, there's a dog. That dog has a short, stumpy tail." "I see a horse. The horse's tail is long and swishes back and forth!"

Ready to Write



Stacking: For young children, picking items up and putting them in place helps them learn the important skill of grasp-and-release, as well as how to control and position their fingers. Stacking/nesting also helps with depth perception, hand-eye coordination, and understanding where their body is in space.

Help your child stack blocks, bowls, books, boxes, food containers, plastic cups, sponges...



Play



The Zoo

This is a good poem to use with body movements and to have discussions about describing words.

At the zoo, we saw a bear.
He had long, dark fuzzy hair.
(pretend to walk, etc., like a bear)

We saw a lion in a cage.
He was in an awful rage.
(pretend to be a angry lion)

We saw the big, long-necked giraffe,
and the silly monkeys made us laugh.
(everybody laugh)

But my favorite animal at the zoo
is the _____, *(choose an animal)*
how about you?



Sing



I Like Baby Animals

Sung to: "London Bridge"

I like baby animals,
Animals, animals.
I like baby animals,
Let's name a few.

Kittens, puppies, chicks and foals,
Chicks and foals, chicks and foals.
Kittens, puppies, chicks and foals,
Let's name some more.

Goslings, ducklings, lambs and calves,
Lambs and calves, lambs and calves.
Goslings, ducklings, lambs and calves,
I like baby animals!

Hear the tune at

<https://kcls.org/content/London-Bridge/>
(King County Library System)

At your library...



Idaho libraries are here to help you during the pandemic. In-person service depends on local health guidelines; however, most libraries offer pick-up service, online service, or 24-hour service such as free Wi-Fi. If you don't have your library's website URL, use the Idaho library locator at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/idaho-library-directory/>.