



Unit 2: Animals Surviving and Thriving
Week 1: What do animals do?

Dear Families,

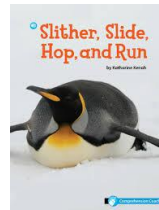
We are beginning a new unit of study! For the next eight weeks, we will be studying **animals**. The central question for the unit is “How do animals survive and thrive?”

Try to do one of the activities **with your child** each day of the week. Each activity will take about twenty to thirty minutes. Remember to make time for reading, too! Please help your child return the sheet to school at the end of the week. We hope you enjoy learning with your child!

This week we are reading...



A Bird Can Fly
by Douglas Florian



Slither, Slide, Hop, and Run
by Katharine Kenah

Go to the library or look on your bookshelf at home to find more books about animals and what they do.

Your child is practicing reading the chant “Three Small Monkeys” (attached). Read it together!

Reading Log	
Your child can read to you, and you can read to your child.	
<i>It's always a good idea to read a book many times. We can find something new in a book each time we read the words or look at the illustrations.</i>	
Title and Author	What do you think?



<p>Go outside or look out the window <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>What animals do you see moving around outside? What are they doing? What do you notice about how they use their bodies?</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Talk about... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>... animals that interest you. Do you have a favorite animal? Why is that animal your favorite?</p> <p>You could also watch the Ultimate Animals Video for Children (on YouTube) and talk about what you notice.</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>Tell a story <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Choose two animals and tell a story about what happens when they meet.</p>	<p>Read together!</p> <p>at least 10 minutes every day</p> <p>Record your reading on the back of this page.</p>	<p>Play with math ideas <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Continue to play <i>How Many Dots?</i> with new plates (attached). Show one plate for 3 seconds and ask your child how many dots were shown. Ask her or him to explain how they know.</p>
<p>Explore science and engineering <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Use a plastic container or large jar to set up an indoor habitat, or terrarium. Collect some soil and plants from outside, and add some sticks and dried leaves. Plants will need water. A spray bottle of water will be helpful to keep the habitat healthy. (Plan to observe your habitat over multiple weeks.)</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Play with words; grow a reader <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Our Weekly Words are habitat, behavior, structure, and function.</p> <p>What are some <i>behaviors</i> of animals you know about?</p> <p>What parts of their bodies, or <i>structures</i>, are most important for their survival?</p> <p>_____</p>	

Child's name _____ Adult's name _____



habitat

the place or natural area where plants and animals live



behavior

an activity that helps an organism survive and thrive in its habitat



structure

an identifiable part of a plant or animal



function

what structures do for an organism



Teachers Need:

*This week's Homelink(front and back)

*Vocabulary Sheet

*[Math: How Many Dots](#)

*[Three Small Monkeys](#)