

# Nursery Maths Grid—Topic: All Creatures Great and Small, Dear Zoo! 1st June onwards

Please note—These activities are just optional ideas, there is no pressure to complete them. If there are resources mentioned that you do not have at home, please adapt them to suit what you have available

## Number

## Shape

## Measures

### Zoo Animal Graph

If you are able to, print off the sheet count how many there are of each animal and colour in the corresponding number of boxes. Which animal are there the most of? Which animal has the least?

If you aren't able to print the sheet off, or would like an extra challenge choose 5 of your favourite zoo animals. Then ask your family, neighbours and friends which one is their favourite and make your own bar graph.

### Animal home

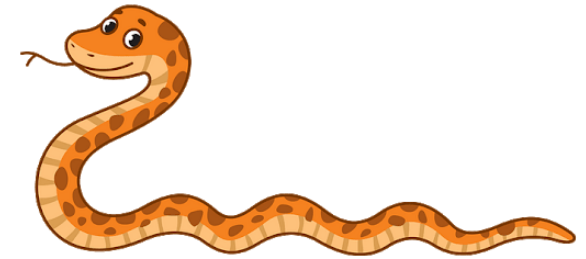
Using lego, duplo, wooden bricks etc can your child make a home for their toy animal?

What shapes have they used to make it?



### Slithering Snakes

Make out of paper or draw three snakes of different lengths. A long one, a medium size one and a short one!



### Visiting the zoo game!

If you have access to a printer, print off the visiting the zoo game to play as a family. If you need a dice the following link is an interactive one that you can use!  
<https://www.online-stopwatch.com/chance-games/roll-a-dice/>

Alternatively play your own board game with your child. The main thing is to have fun while practising a bit of counting!

### Continuing a repeating pattern

On a large sheet on paper draw some snakes (see can you continue the pattern sheet). Using felt tips or paint start a repeating pattern using two colours. Can your child continue the pattern? If they find this easy make the pattern more challenging by adding another colour.

**Cooking/Baking** is a great way for the children to be practically involved in measuring, counting and recognising numbers. Mrs Rawson's daughter Grace has discovered this cookie recipe. They are a huge hit with all the family. Unfortunately she isn't so keen on the washing up!

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/user/23650/recipe/millies-cookies-recipe>

### Numbers in the environment

Why not set your child a challenge when you go on a walk?! Can you spot the numbers 1 to 10? How many times can you see number 3?



### Shapes in the environment

Another idea for when you are on a walk or even just at home. What shapes can you see? How many circles can you see? Are they all the same size?

The children enjoy Pancake Manor and the Shapes are everywhere song.



# Nursery Reading and Writing Grid—Topic: All Creatures Great and Small, Dear Zoo

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## Reading

Listen to the story of Dear Zoo being song to us. Please remind the children that when we read a story we read the **words**. We read them from left to right, top to bottom. This is something that as adults, we just take for granted but your child may not be aware of this. Some children will refer to words as numbers so it is good to double check their understanding.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UywEnHKTMXk>

### Clapping the syllables in animal names.

Using visual aids such as animal pictures or toy animals can your child name all the animals? Look at each one in turn how many syllables can they hear in its name? Snake is one syllable so we would clap once. Monkey is 2 syllables, so 2 claps. Kangaroo is 3 syllables, 3 claps. What other animals can you think of?

### What am I game?

Read the clues for an animal to your child. Can they guess what animal it is?

After a few goes, or on a different day can your child think of their own clues so you have to guess the animal!

## Writing

Encourage your child to draw a picture of their **favourite animal**. What sound does the name of the animal begin with? If they know what the letter looks like encourage them to write it or model it for them. Then write the rest of the word for them.

What can they tell you about their favourite animal? For example it has four legs and a long trunk. Write your child's ideas for them, modelling the school cursive script.

**Design your own zoo!** You can print and cut out the pictures (my zoo cut outs) or you can draw your own pictures. What animals will you have in your zoo? What else do you need? Ticket office, toilets, café, shop, playground? You may decide to revisit your child's zoo design and encourage them to have ago at labelling it on a different day! Can they hear the first sound of a word and with your help write it? You can then write the rest of the word for them.

**A lot of children are not too keen on writing at this age, please don't worry if your child does not want to sit and hold a pen or do writing activities...do something that interests them instead! You might find a dot to dot, or maze type of activity grasp their interest instead which is great.**

## Fine motor Skills

### Getting ready for Reception

#### Getting dressed

This has been on our home learning grids before but it's a huge part of developing your child's independence. Can they put their top and jeans/leggings/shorts etc on?!



Can they put their socks and shoes on?  
Now is the perfect time to practise as we haven't got the mad dash to school in the morning!

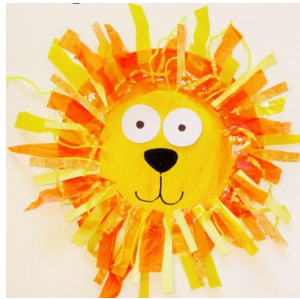
**Phonics** As stated on our previous grid, we concentrate mainly on the initial sound of words in Nursery. We have been developing the children's awareness of alliteration (when all the words begin with the same sound eg six sizzling sausages) and rhyme. Please reinforce this at home as and when appropriate. This can be through stories and games such as silly soup and I spy.

# Nursery Creative/World/Physical Grid—Topic: All Creatures Great and Small, Dear Zoo

## Creative

### Paper plate zoo animal face!

As you know we love a paper plate craft activity in Nursery. How about having ago at making a paper plate lion face with a curly mane!



## World/Science

### My favourite zoo animal

What is your child's favourite animal? Mrs Rawson likes sloths, Mrs Illidge likes monkeys, Mrs Davies likes penguins and Mrs McDonald likes giraffes. Together can you find out some facts about their favourite animal such as where they live and what they like to eat.

## Physical

### Animal movement

Watch the animal movement twinkl power point. Think about how different animals from the story Dear Zoo move. Can your child pretend to be those animals? There are lots of ideas on the animal movement cards.



### Animal songs

What songs can you think of that have animals in it? On you tube you can join in with 'top 15 animal songs'. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BLEt5lxqAHA>

Maybe you could make a shaker out of a yoghurt pot and some rice to shake while you sing along?!

Can your child suggest how we might find out about their favourite animal - using books or the internet.



If you are feeling a bit fed up, put on this song version of Dear Zoo and dance around the kitchen, lounge or garden!! I hope it makes you smile!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsHXDPxozTk>



### How do you feel today?

In the story the camel was grumpy, the lion was fierce and the snake was scary. Can your child show you a grumpy face, an angry face, a happy face, a scared face and a surprised face. Explore with your child when might you feel grumpy etc? This may be a good opportunity to talk about what you can do when you are feeling sad etc.

### People and communities

Justin Fletcher tells the story of Dear Zoo using Makaton sign language on cbeebies bedtime stories.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UywEnHKTMXk>

### Standing on one foot!

Can your child stand momentarily on one foot like a flamingo? Do they find it easier on one foot than the other?

