

Little Kids First Big Book of Animals

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Animals, Habitats

Grade Level: K to 2nd grade

Book Brief: A fun, informative book with colorful pictures and interesting facts about a variety of animals.

Author:

Catherine D. Hughes



TIME TO READ!

Before reading, make predictions: What animals do you think will be in this book? What animal is on the cover?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ Could any of the animals in the book make a good pet?
- ◆ Would it be able to live in the same *habitat* you live in?
- ◆ Could you feed it?

While reading, make connections: Have you seen this animal before? Where?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

ON THE HUNT

Materials: cotton balls, perfume or scented oil

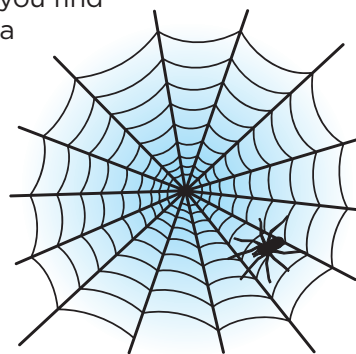
Many animals, like the lion, use their sense of smell to find prey. Spray perfume on several cotton balls. Hide them around the room within your child's reach. Have your child pretend to be a lion and use smell to find the "prey." Is this easier or harder than the ways humans find food?



mixture. Let set in refrigerator. Top with whipped topping and enjoy! While you eat, explain that real sea foam (the whipped topping) is made of *dissolved organic matter*, like algae and plankton.

HABITATS AT HOME

What animal habitats can you find near your home? Perhaps a spider has built its home where you can see its web, or a bird has nested in a nearby tree. Go on a habitat hunt and list the animals or animal homes you find. Be careful to only observe and not disturb any homes!



EDIBLE OCEANS

Ingredients: blue gelatin, water, fruit snacks or canned fruit, clear cups, whipped topping

Help your child mix gelatin according to package directions. Fill each cup 1/2 full of mixture. Place fruit snacks in the cup. Fill the rest of the way with

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Space, Catherine D. Hughes (2012), *National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Why*, Amy Shields (2011), *Nat Geo Wild Animal Atlas: Earth's Astonishing Animals and Where They Live* (2002).

