

# discovery time

## A Visit to the Zoo

Parents and caregivers, extend Discovery Time into your home. Share these fingerplays and activities with young children. **The letter for this theme is Z.**

### **The Yellow Giraffe**

The yellow giraffe is as tall as can be.

*(Put hand up high)*

His lunch is a bunch of leaves off a tree.

*(Put arms up for tree branches)*

He has a very long neck

And his legs are long, too.

*(Point to neck and legs)*

And he can run faster  
than his friends in the zoo.

*(Run in place)*

### **Zebras in a Zoo**

Five zebras in a zoo.

*(Wiggle fingers.)*

The first one said:

I need new shoes.

*(Touch thumb with other hand)*

The second said,

I do, too.

*(Touch index finger with other hand)*

The third one said,

My name is Sue.

*(Touch middle finger with other hand)*

The fourth one said,

It's nice to meet you.

*(Grab ring finger and shake hands with it)*

The fifth one said,

How do you do?

*(Wave with little finger)*

### **I Went To The Zoo**

Oh, I went to the zoo,

And what did I see?

I saw a great big tiger,

Looking at me.

He went roar, roar,

He went roar, roar.

He went roar, roar, roar,

And that's what he said to me.

Oh, I went to the zoo,

And what did I see?

I saw a great big monkey,

Looking at me.

He went Ooo-ooo-o Ooo-ooo-o,

He went Ooo-ooo-o Ooo-ooo-o.

He went Ooo-ooo-o Ooo-ooo-o,

And that's what she said to me!

### **The Animals At The Zoo**

*(Tune: "The Wheels on the Bus")*

The lions at the zoo go roar, roar, roar,

Roar, roar, roar,

Roar, roar, roar.

The lions at the zoo go roar, roar, roar,

All day long!

*(Repeat with other animals such as*

*snakes/hiss, hiss, hiss;*

*hyenas/ha, ha, ha;*

*monkeys/oooh, oooh, oooh)*



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Help your child get ready to read with these simple activities.

- **Talking:** Ask your child to read her favorite book to you. If she does not tell you the exact story from the book, that is fine. This allows your toddler to imitate reading habits and practices.
- **Singing:** A child's response to a recording is different than her response to her parents' voices. Singing along with a parent allows for the development of communication.
- **Reading:** Read signs on the street to your child. Point out words your child may recognize. Show him that words are everywhere you go.
- **Writing:** When your child is ready to write letters, begin with uppercase letters. Try writing favorite words first, such as your child's name or "Mom" and "Dad."
- **Playing:** Bath time with an infant, toddler, or preschooler is filled with opportunities for rich learning. Provide cups, simple toys such as rubber ducks, and sponges and washcloths for play and experimentation.

## family literacy tip

### Appreciating Wildlife

Educating children about wildlife reaches beyond learning facts about animals to an appreciation, affection, and respect for these living creatures. Much of what we teach children passes on the attitudes and values of the society... photographs, movies, audio recordings of animal sounds and narration can breathe life into these animals. In addition to factual information, stories with pictures can add an element of familiarity and identification for these little known animals.

Wilkinson, Barbara. "Wildlife Education and Attitudes Toward Animals." *Attitudes Toward Animals*. n.p., n.d. Web. 6 Jul. 2017.



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