

EYFS Activity Ideas: Habitats

Area of Learning							
	C&L	PSED	PD	Literacy	Mathematics	UW	EAD
Activity Ideas	Sing a range of animal themed songs eg: <i>5 Little Monkeys, Old MacDonal, 5 Little Ducks</i>	Collaborative play in habitat themed Small World provision – can children extend and elaborate play ideas.	Hide some bug toys in the sand (desert) children pretend to be Meerkats to dig them out – can they find the best tool/ technique for digging up the food?	Practise counting claps (syllables) in animal words. Which animal has the most? <i>Meer-kat, Peng-uin, Rhin-oc-eros, Bat etc.</i>	Using numeral cards to 5 then 10, children practise counting the correct amount of animal figures/ counting animals to match the numeral.	Gather some natural materials to represent different habitats (sticks, sand, ice, hay, mud, water, leaves) children to feel each one and try to describe it.	Using Small World and Construction resources, children to create an animal's habitat. Have photos available to support of desert/ polar/ farm/ rainforest etc.
	Read <i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i> and ask questions to encourage understanding and responding in sentences. Eg: <i>What sort of habitat does the caterpillar live in? Why did he eat so many foods?</i>	Using the Pattern Matching game from the CWP Education Resources page, children to take turns to follow the rules of the game and try to find the most pairs. How many pairs did they match?	Using large chinks outside on the playground, can children create large animal drawings? Do the children show preference for a dominant hand? Are they able to make large movements to mark make?	Sort animals into the same initial sounds. Have pictures of animals with the name printed underneath – encourage children to try and read any they may be able to before they sort them.	Children to practise using positional language using an animal figure and a table/ box. <i>The bear is on top of the table. The bear is behind the box. The bear is next to the table etc.</i>	Using the Garden Bug Hunt resource from the CWP Educational Resources page, children to go on a hunt around the outdoor area for Minibeasts in their different habitats. How many can they find?	Have ribbons and musical instruments available, play different songs like <i>In The Jungle The Mighty Jungle and I Like To Move It Move It</i> . Children to make up rhythms/ movements to go along with the music.
	Show photos of different habitats desert/ rainforest/ farm/ polar/ garden - children to talk about what they see, what it might be like to live there, what animals live there, what food might be available there etc. Look at non-fiction books about different habitats and discuss.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zx882hv Watch the clips and talk about the different habitats and animals living there. Discuss that some animals are endangered and what this means. Talk about how we care for all living things and create some posters of different endangered species.	Children to use a range of tools and materials to create a habitat scene. This could be a 3D model or 2d picture, they should have access to scissors, glue spreaders, tape to assemble their scene. They could also have access to stickers, ribbons, pipe cleaners, fabric, paints and pens.	Children to create a storyboard for their favourite animal themed story. (Depending on ability do 3 sections beginning, middle, end then more if able to) Children write phonetically plausible sentences to describe what happened in the story and draw illustrations to match.	Using snake outline template (Twinkl has one here: https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-n-5123-create-a-repeating-pattern-snake-fingerprint-activity-sheet) Children to practise creating repeating patterns using finger paints – more able to use 3 or more colours.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zx882hv Watch the clips and talk about the different habitats. Discuss what the weather is like in each – <i>Are there any similarities? What are the main differences? What about where we live?</i> Can they draw their home on one half of A4 and an animal's habitat that is very different on the other?	Children to practise colour mixing with paints to create a painting of an animal in its habitat. Have photos of animals in their habitats such as desert/ rainforest/ forest/ polar etc. to support. Children given primary colours (and black/white) to create other colours.