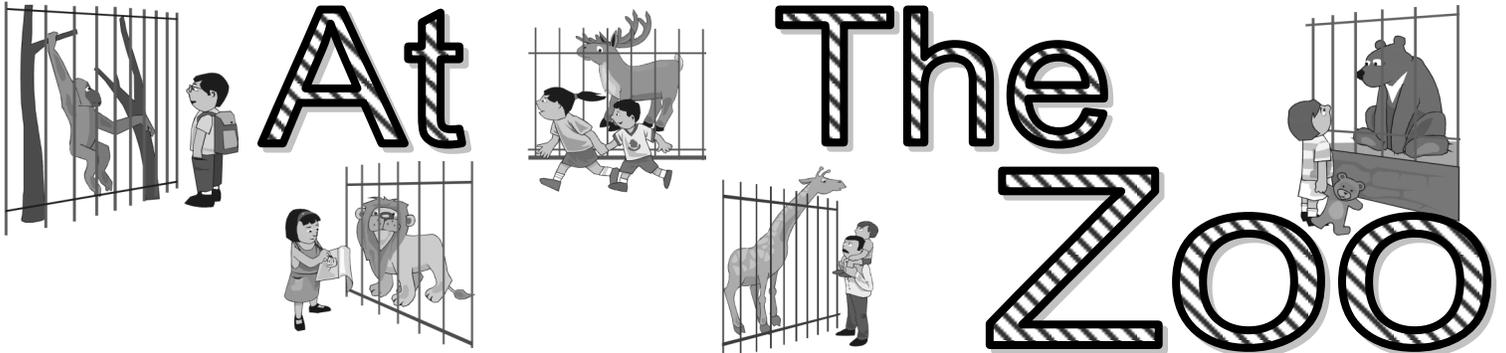


Dear Parents:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our toddler and preschool storytimes. Please continue helping your child develop a love for books and reading by sharing these rhymes, books, and other activities with your child.



### Books To Share

*Peek-a-Zoo!*

by Marie Torres Cimarusti

*Hippo! No, Rhino!*

by Jeff Newman

*Good Night Gorilla*

by Peggy Rathman

*Zoo Girl*

by Rebecca Elliott

*A Sick Day for Amos McGee*

by Philip Stead

*Never Play Music Right Next to the Zoo*

by John Lithgow

*The Way to the Zoo*

by John Burningham

*What's New at the Zoo?*

by Betty Comden

*My Heart is Like a Zoo*

by Michael Hall

*ZooZical*

by Judy Sierra

*If I Ran the Zoo*

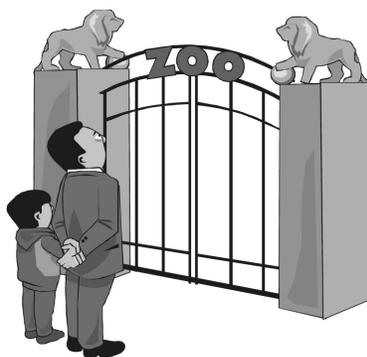
by Dr. Seuss

*Dear Zoo*

by Rod Campbell

*Going to the Zoo*

by Tom Paxton



### Fun With Fingerplays and Songs

**The Monkeys at the Zoo**

(tune: "The Farmer in the Dell")

The monkeys at the zoo,  
The monkeys at the zoo,  
Heigh-ho they laugh and play,  
The monkeys at the zoo.

The monkeys run and hide,  
The monkeys run and hide,  
They like to play, then run away,  
The monkeys at the zoo.

The monkeys love to swing,  
The monkeys love to swing,  
They love to swing, they love to swing,  
The monkeys at the zoo.

**If I Were an Animal in the Zoo**

If I were an animal in the zoo,  
I would always know just what to do.  
If I were an elephant, I would wave my trunk.  
If I were a kangaroo, I'd jump jump jump.  
If I were an ostrich, I would run and run and run.  
If I were a lizard, I would sit in the sun.  
If I were a bird, I would spread my wings and soar.  
And if I were a lion, I would give a loud ROAR!

**I'm a Little Seal**

I'm a little seal,  
I'm lucky, I suppose.  
I can catch a big round ball  
Upon my little nose!  
(Pretend to balance ball on nose.)

## The Elephant Hokey Pokey

You put your elephant ears in.  
You put your elephant ears out.  
You put your elephant ears in,  
And you shake them all about.  
You do the elephant pokey,  
And you stomp yourself around.  
That's what it's all about!  
(add verses with elephant trunk,  
elephant feet, tail, whole self...)

## The Animals at the Zoo

(tune: "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!  
The snakes...go hiss, hiss, hiss  
The hyenas...go ha, ha, ha  
The monkeys...go eee, eee, eee  
The birds...go tweet, tweet, tweet.  
(continue with other animals)

## Zoo Keeper Song

(tune: "Down By the Station")  
Down at the zoo  
Early in the morning,  
You can see the animals  
Standing in a row.  
You can see me feeding  
One and then the other.  
I am the zoo keeper,  
Watch me go!  
Down at the zoo  
Early in the morning,  
You can see the animals  
Standing in a row.  
You can see me cleaning  
One and then the other.  
I am the zoo keeper,  
Watch me go!



## Other Fun Things

### Paper Bag Elephants

You'll need:  
paper bag, gray paint, scissors, paper, glue

Directions:  
Cut a large section out of a brown paper grocery bag. Have kids crumple it up to make it all wrinkly. Then have kids smooth it out flat and paint with gray tempera paint. When dry, cut out a large elephant shape. Draw on the facial features except the nose. Cut the nose from the leftover paper bag and paint gray. Accordion fold it after the paint dries and glue onto elephant face.

### Lion

You'll need:  
Construction paper, glue, scissors, pipe cleaners, glue, either crispy rice cereal, yellow strips of paper, or yellow strips of yarn

Directions:  
Cut a circle out of tan construction paper for the lion's face. Glue on a pink triangle for a nose, pipe cleaners for whiskers, and draw on eyes. For his mane (around circle), glue small pieces of one of the following, either crispy rice cereal, yellow strips of paper, or yellow strips of yarn.



### Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library®

Learning to read begins before your child starts school. Help your children develop early literacy skills now; this makes it easier for children to learn to read once they begin school. Five of the best ways to help your child get ready to read are:

- Talking
- Singing
- Reading
- Writing
- Playing

If you would like more information, please ask the staff in the children's area.

*Every Child Ready to Read® is a project of the Association for Library Service to Children and the Public Library Association, divisions of the American Library Association.*

Updated 12/14

**Old Town Library ■ Council Tree Library ■ Harmony Library**

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