



#### BOOKS TO READ!

*Bark, George* by Jules Feiffer  
*Corduroy* by Don Freeman  
*Good Night, Gorilla* by Peggy Rathmann  
*I Want My Hat Back* by Jon Klassen  
*The Lion & the Mouse* by Jerry Pinkney  
*Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey  
*Peek-a-Moo!* by Marie Torres Cimarrusti  
*Sheep in a Jeep* by Nancy E. Shaw

*Those Darn Squirrels!* by Adam Rubin  
*We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen  
*What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?* by Robin Page  
*What's Your Favorite Animal?* by Eric Carle  
*When Dinosaurs Came with Everything* by Elise Broach

#### Finger Play: I Have a Little Turtle

I have a little turtle (cup hands together)  
 He lives inside a box,  
 He swims in his puddle, (move arms to swim)  
 And climbs up on his rocks. (moved arms to climb)  
 He snapped at the minnow  
 (extend hands out and clap them shut)  
 He snapped at the flea  
 (extend hands out and clap them shut)  
 He snapped at the mosquito  
 (extend hands out and clap them shut)

And he snapped at me!  
 (extend hands out and clap them shut)  
 He caught the minnow (cup hands together)  
 He caught the flea (cup hands together)  
 He caught the mosquito (cup hands together)  
 But he didn't catch me!  
 (shake head and wave finger)

## May: Animals

"I had quite an adventurous childhood growing up in South Carolina. I got trapped in a secret tunnel, was chased by counterfeitors and once I even found a haunted showboat in a deserted bayou. Oh, wait, that was Nancy Drew. But I felt like I was right there with her, shining my flashlight into moss-covered mansions and searching for clues in crumbling walls. Send your kids on the adventure of a lifetime. Open a book."

— Lucy A. Nolan, South Carolina author of *Mother Osprey* and the *Down Girl & Sit* chapter book series

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Make an animal collage</b> Cut out pictures of animals or draw some pictures and paste them on a big piece of paper. 	<b>Song Day!</b> Sing <i>Old MacDonald Had a Farm</i> . Sing as many animals as you can think of!	Practice the sounds that animals make. What's your favorite?	Make up a story about an animal. Where do they live? What kinds of animal friends do they have? Do they wear clothes or walk on two feet? Draw pictures to go along with your story.	Play leap frog with your child. Talk about why it is called leap frog.	Our state bird is the Carolina Wren and the state dog is a Boykin Spaniel. Draw a picture of what you think these look like.	<b>Visit Your Library!</b> Check out some books from this month's list. If possible, get <i>Sheep in a Jeep</i> and <i>The Lion &amp; the Mouse</i> .
Can you think of words or sounds that rhyme with the word sheep? If you have a copy, read <i>Sheep in a Jeep</i> . Practice making the sounds in the book.	Help your child make a card for Mother's Day—you can include grandmothers, godmothers, or friends' mothers.	Count the number of different animals you can find on packaging, clothing, or other things around you.	Draw a picture of the little turtle from the finger play <i>I Have a Little Turtle</i> . Do the finger play when you're finished drawing the picture.	Some picture books have no words only pictures. See if you have any books that are wordless and make up your own words! If you have a copy, read <i>The Lion &amp; the Mouse</i> .	Practice singing your ABC's today! Can you think of an animal for every letter of the alphabet?	<b>Make thumbprint animals!</b> Cut strips of paper and make bookmarks for your friends and family.
Dance to songs with animals in the title like <i>Hound Dog</i> and <i>The Lion Sleeps Tonight</i> .	Take turns pretending to be different animals and guess which animal the other person is pretending to be.	<b>Salt Dough Animals!</b> Get out your salt dough or play dough and make some animals!	Play Which is bigger? using animals.	<b>Mother Goose Time!</b> Hickory, dickory, dare, The pig flew up in the air; The man in brown, Soon brought him down, Hickory, dickory, dare.	Let's Play Pretend What animal would you be and why?	<b>It's Children's Book Week!</b> If you can't visit your library make your own book! Don't forget to draw pictures to go along with the story.
Talk about what kinds of animals live in our state. Visit StudySC.org to learn more about which animals live in South Carolina.	Talk about the names of baby animals: kitten, puppy, lamb, colt etc.	Make a poster about insects! Don't forget to include colorful ones like ladybugs and butterflies.	What animals live under water? Make your best fishy face!	Talk about how eggs come from chickens. Decorate an egg with markers. Don't forget to use it before it spoils!	The author of <i>The Wizard of Oz</i> was born this month. Draw a picture of the lion!	Look through a magazine or book for animals found in other words like coward, crabby, or catastrophe.
What are some cold weather animals? Talk about animals that live in the snow and draw your favorite!	Explain to your child what it means for an animal to be endangered. Ask your child what people can do to protect endangered animals.	What kind of animals live in the jungle? Can you make up a story about these animals?	Do you know the sounds the jungle animals in your story from yesterday make? Take turns making the animal's sounds!	Together, write a poem about your pet or what your favorite animal does all day.	Talk a walk and look for butterflies. Can you tell a story about what the butterflies are doing?	Make up a finger play to <i>The Quiet Mouse</i> . Once there lived a quiet mouse. He lived inside a quiet house. When all was quiet as could be, OUT POPPED HE!