

Theme:

Forest Animals!

Week 1

This document contains all of the activities for the theme “for the age group “Big Kids.”

Have fun!

Questions or comments? Please email us at

[playconnecttoday@gmail.com!](mailto:playconnecttoday@gmail.com)

All activities require adult supervision!

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*Images used from: unspash.com

Book Suggestion

(We highly recommend checking your local library for this book, however if you cannot find it-please see link on our “Theme extras” web page to purchase if desired or find another book that showcases forest animals)! - We suggest using the same book for two weeks as this really helps children gain reading comprehension of the book!



Song Suggestion

The Little Owl

Written by Play Connect LLC.

Hoot hoot hoot said the owl in the tree
Hoot hoot hoot, I want to see what I can see!
I see a possum family!

Hoot hoot hoot said the owl in the tree
Hoot hoot hoot, I want to see what I can see!
I see a skunk; I hope he doesn't spray me!

Hoot hoot hoot said the owl in the tree
Hoot hoot hoot, I want to see what I can see!
I see a beaver chewing on a tree!

Hoot hoot hoot said the owl in the tree
Hoot hoot hoot, I have seen what I wanted to see
Now it's time to take a rest for me!



Simple Vocabulary Words

These are optional vocabulary cards to show your child before reading the story to help with understanding. It is also a great idea to point out the words while reading the book!



OWL



SKUNK



DEER



POSSUM



BEAVER



PORCUPINE



RACCOON

Art Project: Owl

What you need for this activity:

- *Brown, yellow, black, orange construction paper
- *Child-safe scissors
- *Optional: feathers or pinecone pieces
- *Non-toxic glue

Directions:

To start, take the brown paper and cut out a large circle.

Then, cut out two yellow circles (eyes) and two more black circles (smaller than the yellow ones).

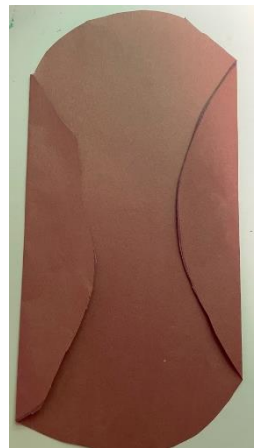
Finally, cut out three orange triangles (nose and feet).

*Once all pieces have been cut, fold two of the sides in of the brown circle-this forms the wings.

*Then, glue on the yellow eyes, followed by the black centers.

*After this, glue on the nose and feet.

*Optionally, finish off the owl by adding either feathers or pinecone pieces to the wings!



Pre-writing Activity: Loopy Lines

What you need for this activity:

- *Feather
- *Loopy Lines Example (or make your own)
- *Writing utensil
- *Optional:
 - Owl printable
 - Child-safe scissors
 - Non-toxic glue

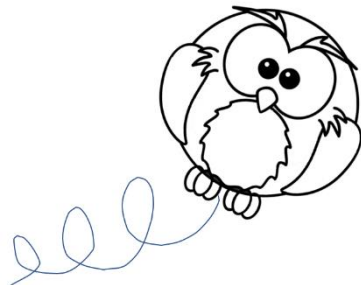
Directions:

*Another type of line that is good for children to learn is the “loopy line.”

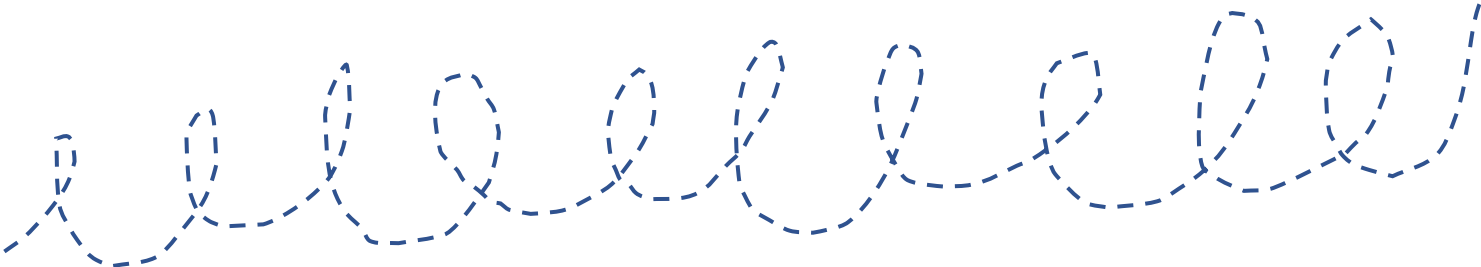
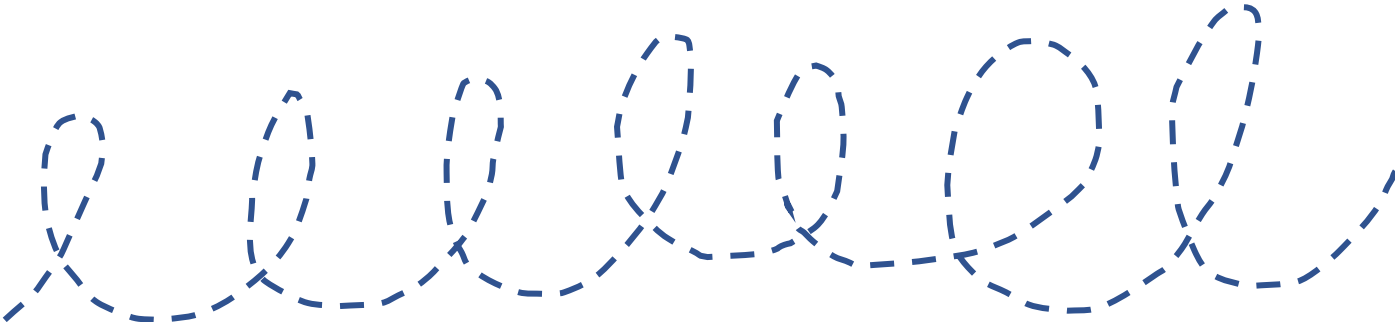
*For this activity, have your child(ren) trace the loopy line with a feather. Then trace with a writing utensil. You can either draw your own or use the printable version below. (If you don't have a feather, they can also use their finger, a stick etc.)

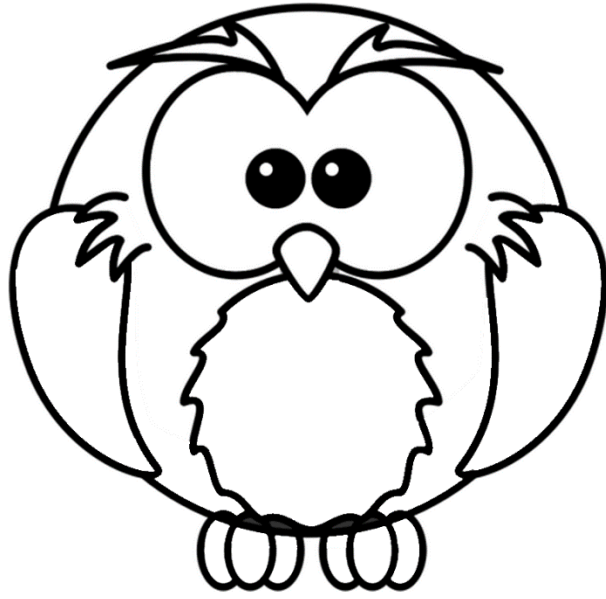
*Optionally to further practice this type of line, have your child print off and cut out the owl. Then glue it to a piece of construction paper. Lastly, draw loopy lines coming from the owl (as though you are showing its flight pattern).

Example:



Loopy Lines to trace





Math Activity

I'm Walking Through the Forest

What you need for this activity:

- *I'm Walking Through the Forest Pages
- *Child-safe scissors
- *Non-toxic glue

Directions:

- *This game allows your child(ren) to work on their number skills! It also allows them to work on their ability to follow directions in a more complex way!
- *Ask your child(ren) to cut out all of the animal images on the last page of the activity set. Note-they will not use each animal 10 times, this is only for the purpose of them having enough of each and so that they have to count and listen to the number said.
- *Then do the activity! (Directions on pages)
- **Note-you may want to keep the small animal cards from next week's math activity!

I'm walking through the forest...

For this activity read the story to your child(ren) about walking through the forest. While you are reading they must listen for when a direction about an animal is called. For example when you read "I see 6 owls in the biggest tree." They must place 6 owls in the biggest tree.

Make sure you give them enough time as this can be a big challenge!

I'm walking through the forest...

As I'm walking through the forest I can see and hear many things! What a nice day it is today.

When I get to the forest I see some beavers sound asleep. I better count them from a distance...9, there are 9 beavers asleep by the river.

As I keep walking, I see 6 owls in the biggest tree. They are all sound asleep because it is daytime. I better leave them alone.

I wonder if any animals are awake! Hmm, oh look! I see a small deer family in the white trees. They are looking right at me, all 8 of them.

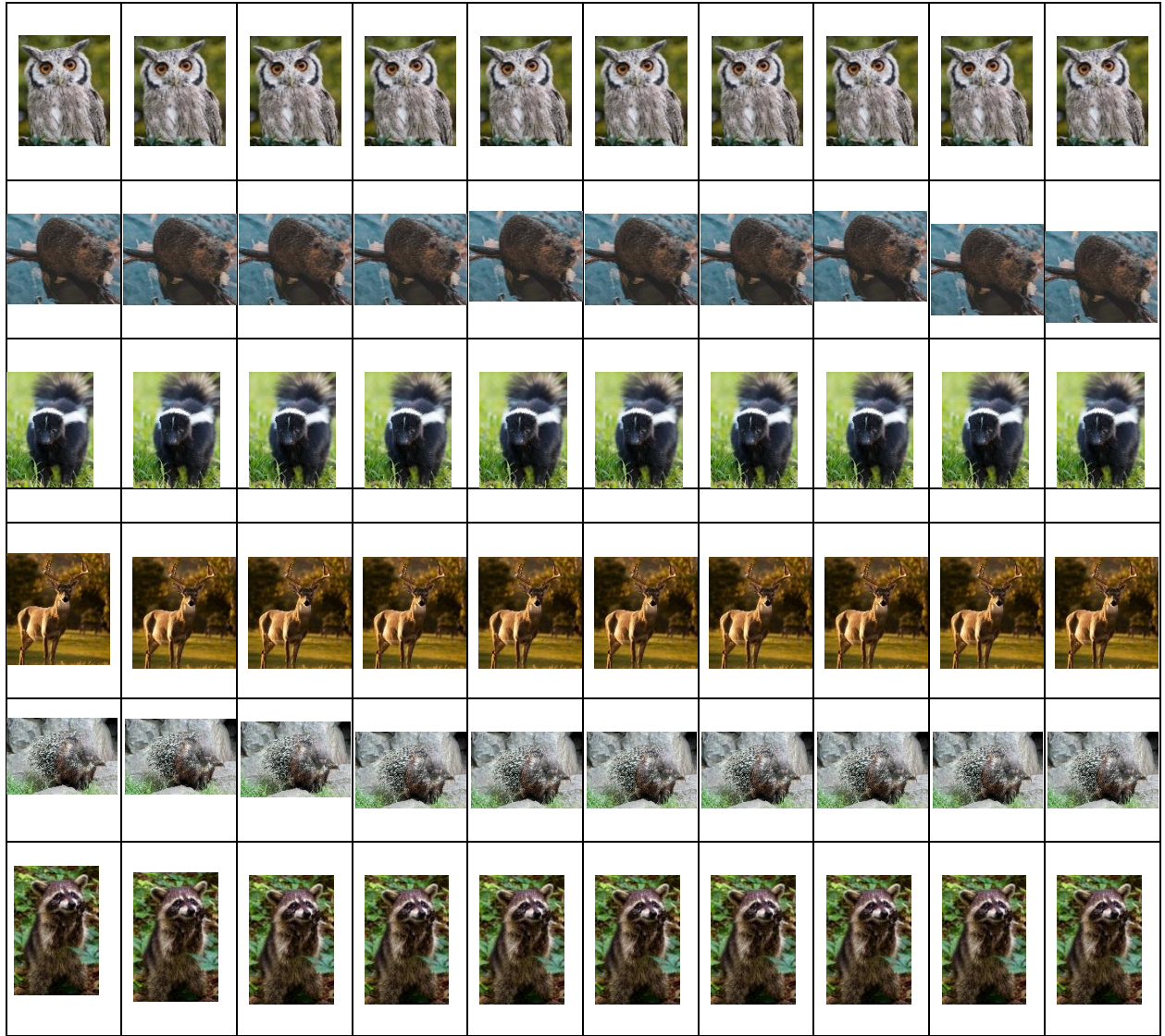
Crunch, crunch, crunchy leaves what's that? Oh it's a racoon with its babies. I count 7 of them!

My legs are getting tired, I better sit down on this bench here...shhhhhh I better stay quiet so I don't scare the porcupine walking across the path here by this bench. I only see one whew!

I better keep moving now and FAST because I see a big family of skunks...there are 10 of them in that pile of wood! RUN before they spray me!

Whew! I made it out of the forest, what a beautiful and tiring walk that was.





Language Activity:

Rhyming Game

What you need for this activity:

- *Rhyming Cards
- *Child-safe scissors
- *Optional: construction paper and non-toxic glue

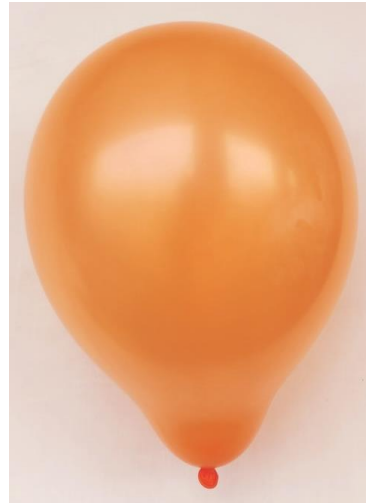
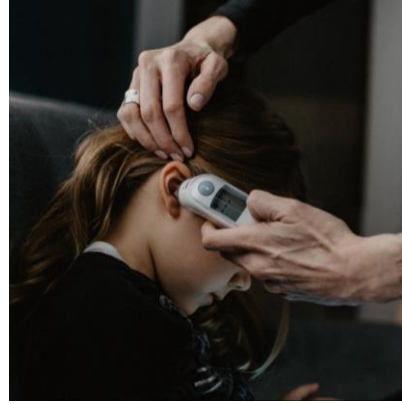
Directions:

For this activity, your child(ren) will work on their understanding of rhymes. If they have not yet learned about rhymes, explain some simple (one-syllable) examples. (Such as me/we, dog/hog, cat/mat etc.)

*As usual, we recommend gluing the cards to construction paper first to make them stronger but of course this is optional. Then cut out all of the rhyming cards. If your child is new to rhyming, show them which cards rhyme first so they have an idea! Then...

*Option one: play this as a memory game-place all cards face down. The first person picks up two cards, if they rhyme, they keep both and can try again. If not, they place both back where they grabbed them from and play goes to next person. Whoever has the most cards at the end wins.

*Option two: play "go fish." The first person asks another player "Do you have a card that rhymes with (raccoon)?" If the player has the balloon, they must give the asker the card. Then play goes to the next person. Whoever has the most cards at the end wins.







Science Activity: Owl Eyes

What you need for this activity:

- *Empty (1) Paper towel roll cut in half or (2) toilet paper rolls
- *Owl face template
- *Tape or glue
- *Child-safe scissors
- *Optional-flashlight

Directions:

Start the activity by looking at some pictures of owls (or even just the owl in the book). Ask your child(ren) what they notice about the owl's eyes.

Perhaps they notice:

They are really big

They are round

They are on the front of the owl's face and face forward (like ours)!

Ask them if they have any ideas about why and owl's eyes are like this!

Explanations (you can do before or after science project)

An owl's eyes are SO big to help them take in more light so they can see in the dark better!

Because an owl's eyes are on the front of its face, instead of the side like some animals, an owl has to turn its head to see things that aren't in its' line of vision, just like us!

An owl's eyes aren't balls like ours-where we can move them all around, they are more like tubes (aka the science project following this). So, an owl can turn its head ALMOST all the way around so that it can see things.

*To do the activity-simply cut out the owl eyes template, also cutting out the eyes portion of the owl and glue (or tape) the tubes (toilet paper or paper towel rolls) on!

*Have your child put their eyes into them to "see like an owl."

*Ask them what they notice

-Has their field of vision gone down?

-Do they have to turn more to see?

-Optionally you can turn the lights off and give them a dim flashlight to show (somewhat) that an owl can see in the dark- a lot better than we can!

