

Core Skills Analysis

Science

- Learnt basic distinctions between animals typically found in a zoo versus those on a farm.
- Developed understanding of animal habitats by categorizing where different animals live and their needs.
- Explored characteristics of various animals such as size, sound, and diet in relation to their environment.
- Recognized human roles in caring for animals in both farms and zoos.

Literacy

- Expanded vocabulary related to animals, habitats, and farming/zoo environments.
- Practised sorting and classification skills which are foundational for reading comprehension.
- Gained early experience with descriptive language by identifying features of animals.
- Engaged in storytelling or simple verbal descriptions about animals and their environments.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

- Developed empathy and awareness of animal care and well-being.
- Practised decision-making by sorting animals into categories and discussing their needs.
- Enhanced concentration and attention through focused discussion or play about animals.
- Promoted curiosity and questioning about the natural world and human interaction with animals.

Tips

To deepen understanding, encourage your child to create a simple picture book or collage differentiating zoo and farm animals, including facts about each. Planning a visit to a local zoo or farm will provide real-life context, making the learning tangible and memorable. Use role-playing games where your child acts as a zoo keeper or farmer, caring for certain animals, to build empathy and responsibility. Finally, integrate related songs or stories to enhance both literacy and engagement with the subject.

Book Recommendations

- [Farmyard Fun](#) by Nicola Edwards: A colorful board book introducing farm animals with simple text and engaging images, perfect for early learners.
- [Dear Zoo](#) by Rod Campbell: A classic lift-the-flap book that introduces various zoo animals and encourages interaction and anticipation.
- [Big Book of Animals](#) by Yuval Zommer: An illustrated encyclopedia for children featuring animals from farms and the wild, expanding knowledge and vocabulary.

Learning Standards

- Science – Year 1: Animals, including humans (National Curriculum 2014) – Identify and name a variety of common animals, describe their habitats.
- English – Year 1: Speaking and Listening – Participate in discussions, listen carefully to others, and describe familiar things.
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development – Understanding the world (Early Years Foundation Stage) – Caring for living things and the environment.

Try This Next

- Create a sorting worksheet where children cut out pictures of different animals and glue them under 'Zoo' or 'Farm' headings.

- Draw and label a farm and a zoo on separate sheets, illustrating animal habitats and human roles.

Growth Beyond Academics

This activity fosters empathy and curiosity as children consider animals' needs and environments. It supports confidence through categorization decisions and encourages focus during discussions or creative tasks. The hands-on nature promotes engagement and independent thinking.