

## Core Skills Analysis

### Reading Comprehension & Literacy

- Mila learned how to extract key factual information about baby animals, enhancing her ability to understand non-fiction text.
- She practiced identifying main ideas and details within an informational text about animal biology and life cycles.
- She developed vocabulary related to animal species and habitats, building content-specific language skills.
- Mila improved her skills in distinguishing fact-based nonfiction from fiction stories, supporting critical reading.

### Science (Life Science - Animals)

- Mila gained knowledge about various species' baby animals and their characteristics during early life stages.
- She learned about animal development and care behaviors through observing non-fiction examples of baby animals.
- The activity fostered an early understanding of biodiversity and animal adaptations in different environments.
- She explored concepts related to animal families and habitats, contributing to foundational biology understanding.

### Tips

To deepen Mila's understanding of baby animals and nonfiction reading, encourage her to create a "Baby Animal Factbook" where she compiles facts and illustrations from the book and other sources. Organize simple hands-on activities like matching baby animals to their adult counterparts using pictures or puppets. Take a nature walk to observe animal tracks or nests, connecting real-world observations to the text. Finally, discuss story features of nonfiction books (headings, captions, glossary), highlighting how these tools help readers learn, fostering independent research skills early on.

### Book Recommendations

- [Baby Animals](#) by National Geographic Kids: A vibrant non-fiction book introducing young readers to baby animals around the world with stunning photos and simple facts.
- [First Animal Encyclopedia](#) by The Usborne First Encyclopedia Series: A child-friendly encyclopedia full of colorful images and facts about animals and their babies, designed for early explorers.
- [What Do Babies Like You Do? \(Baby Animal Books for Kids\)](#) by Emma St. Laurent: A straightforward non-fiction picture book showing how various baby animals behave, sleep, and play.

### Learning Standards

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.1 - Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3 - Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases relevant to a grade 2 topic or subject area.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.5 - Know and use text features to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2 - Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey

ideas and information clearly.

### **Try This Next**

- Worksheet: Match baby animals to their adult animal images with short fact descriptions.
- Writing prompt: Write a short story or informational paragraph imagining a day in the life of a baby animal from the book.

### **Growth Beyond Academics**

This activity likely encouraged Mila's curiosity about nature and animals, fostering a sense of wonder. Engaging with nonfiction texts can build confidence in handling informational content and boost independent learning. If she worked with others or shared facts, it may also support social skills like communication and cooperation.