



SEEC  
A LEARNING COMMUNITY

Smithsonian Early  
Enrichment Center

## Animals in Your Neighborhood

- We are going to learn more about the animals around our homes!
- Some of us live in D.C., some in Maryland, and some in Virginia but we all have similar animals in our backyards!





## Let's Sing A Song!

### Five Little Ducks

*Five little ducks  
Went out one day  
Over the hills and far away  
Mother duck said  
"Quack, quack, quack, quack"  
But only four little ducks came back.*

*...(Continue counting down)*

*One little duck  
Went out one day  
Over the hills and far away  
Mother duck said  
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."  
But none of the five little ducks came back.*

*Sad mother duck  
Went out one day  
Over the hills and far away  
The sad mother duck said  
"Quack, quack, quack."  
And all of the five little ducks came back.*

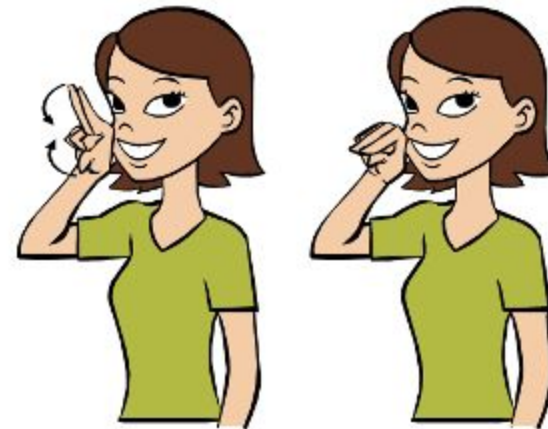


Image courtesy of [babysignlanguage.com](http://babysignlanguage.com)



## Jump Like a Fox!

- Foxes are able to jump pretty high, so see how high your child can jump, like a fox.
- If your child is walking confidently, encourage them to try jumping up and down.
- Bend down low, and jump up into the air with your hands over your head, the more exaggerated the better!
- **Don't forget:** jumping is hard! Your child's first jumps might look more like squats than jumps but keep encouraging them to practice!<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Image Courtesy of: [citywildlife.org](http://citywildlife.org)





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## What Does the Fox Say?<sup>2</sup>

- Listen to the sounds a fox makes
- It sounds similar to a dog barking!
- Youtube Video:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h\\_o-TImnrNo&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_o-TImnrNo&feature=youtu.be)



<sup>2</sup> <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/red-fox-vulpes-sitting-attention-direct-392638390>



## Squirreling Away Some Snacks

- Squirrels<sup>3</sup> are probably the most common thing we see in our neighborhoods. They are in the trees, in the streets, and in our yards looking for a yummy snack!
- Squirrels love nuts, seeds, fruits and bugs but they don't always remember where they buried their food for later.
- Let's make them some snacks that are easy, yummy, and safe for your children too!



<sup>3</sup> Image Courtesy of: [citywildlife.org](http://citywildlife.org)



## Squirrel Snack Recipe

Ingredients	Directions <sup>4</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 1 large egg</li><li>● 1 ½ cups all purpose flour</li><li>● ⅓ cup of unsalted butter</li><li>● ½ cup of sugar</li><li>● ½ teaspoon of baking soda</li><li>● ½ cup of brown sugar</li><li>● 1 cup of peanut butter (crunchy or smooth)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Feel free to sub out for any kind of nut or sun butter you prefer!</li></ul></li></ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Preheat oven to 375F</li><li>2. Grease two cookie sheets or line with aluminum foil</li><li>3. Combine all dry ingredients</li><li>4. Add wet ingredients and mix until well combined</li><li>5. Press flat with the palm of your hand or a fork</li><li>6. Bake one sheet at a time for 10-12 minutes</li><li>7. Remove from cookie sheet and let cool on a cooling rack</li></ol>

<sup>4</sup> Recipe Courtesy of: <https://www.birdsandblooms.com/blog/squirrel-cookie-recipe>



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## Birds of D.C. in National Museum of Natural History







## Life Sized Bird Nest

### Materials

- A big box or a large laundry basket
- Fillings
  - Blankets
  - A few sticks
  - You
  - Anything you'd like
- Balls, balloons, or toy eggs



### Directions

1. Place all of your items inside your nest
2. Make it cozy!
3. Sit inside your nest while you watch or listen to the birds
  - a. This can be fun for any age: infants, toddlers, older children or adults!





