



## What is Nature?

### Learning Objectives

- What plants are and what they do
  - Provide shelter, food, beauty, etc.
- Observe plants around us<sup>1</sup>
- Record our observations by drawing
- Learn about different types of animals
- Learn about what noises different animals make



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nga.gov/collection/art-object-page.47930.html>



# SEEC

## A LEARNING COMMUNITY

Smithsonian Early  
Enrichment Center

### Plants

#### Major Questions

- What are plants?
- What do we notice about the plants around us?
- What do plants do?

#### Books to Explore

- My Garden by Kevin Henkes
- A Tree is Nice by Janice May Urdy
- What Will Grow by Jennifer Ward

#### Home Applications

- Let's Sing: The Seed  
(Tune: "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star")  
I'm a little planted seed, (point thumb at self)  
See the rain falling on me. (wiggle fingers down like raindrops)  
Sunshines down through the trees, (hold hands up in circle)  
These are all the things I need indeed. (nod head)  
Oh, how happy they make me, (pointers point to smiling face)  
I'm a little growing seed. (point thumb to self)
- Let's color
  - Grab a piece of paper and a few crayons, colored pencils, or markers
  - Look out your window and ask your child what plants they see
  - Have your child draw the plants they see



## Careful Looking

William Trost Richards: October<sup>2</sup>

Guiding Questions



- What do you see?
- How does this picture make you feel?
- What colors do you see?
- What do you like about the picture?
- What title would you give this picture?
- What could be added?
- What shapes do you see?

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nga.gov/collection/art-object-page.127263.html>



# SEEC

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### Animals

#### *Guiding Questions*

- Can we identify different types of animals?
- Where do you find them in nature?
- What is the biggest animal?

#### *Books to Explore*

- [Yoga for Kids: Animal Poses for Any Age](#) by Lorena Pjalunga
- [What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?](#) by Steve Jenkins & Robin Page

#### *Home Applications*

- Let's Sing: The Animals at the Zoo

*(Tune: "The Wheels on the Bus")*

The lions at the zoo go roar, roar, roar,

Roar, roar, roar. Roar, roar, roar.

The lions at the zoo go roar, roar, roar.

All day long.

*Other verses:*

snakes ... hiss, hiss, hiss

monkey ... ooh ooh ooh




# SEEC

## A LEARNING COMMUNITY

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### Build Your Own Zoo!<sup>3</sup>

Materials	Directions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Craft Paper or Plain Paper</li><li>● Crayons, Markers, or Paint</li><li>● Tape</li><li>● Scissors</li><li>● Building Materials<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Blocks, Toilet/Paper towel tubes, Books</li></ul></li><li>● Animals<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Toys, Puzzle Pieces, Print-Outs</li></ul></li></ul> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Start by cutting a large piece of craft paper OR by laying out several sheets of paper</li><li>2. Tape the paper to the floor</li><li>3. Talk about the design of the zoo with your child<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Ask your child about the shape<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Circular, Square: then ask your child to draw the shape of their zoo</li></ol></li></ol></li><li>4. Next talk about how you and your child are going to house the animals<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Try starting with one animal and talk about where that animal would live</li></ol></li><li>5. Now that you know where the animal lives, draw and build its home!<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Try writing a name for each animals home<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Ex. Artic, Forest</li><li>ii. Sound through each letter</li></ol></li></ol></li></ol>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2013/04/build-your-own-zoo-pretend-play.html>





## Careful Looking

American 19th Century: Cutout of Animals<sup>4</sup>



Guiding Questions

- What do you see?
- How does this picture make you feel?
- What colors do you see?
- Can you count how many animals there are?
- Which animal is your favorite?
  - Why?
- What do you like about the picture?
- What title would you give this picture?
- What could be added?
- Can you name any of the animals?

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nga.gov/collection/art-object-page.50833.html>