

Date: Wednesday 29th April 2020

Activity Title: Amazing Animal Facts

Learning Intention: To use technology to research information (about animals).

Links to EYFS: Understanding the World:

- Knows that information can be retrieved from computers.
- Can talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects.

Activity Overview:

Visit Edinburgh Zoo (virtually) and observe some of the animals via live webcam.

Equipment:

- Pencil
- Paper
- Colouring pencils
- Computer/ Laptop/ iPad/ Mobile Phone (access to the internet)

Key vocabulary:

Zoo, camera, live, animals, watch, observe, look, notice, fact, research.

ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION (including key questions)

Introduction:

Today's activity is all about animals: you are going to take a virtual trip to Edinburgh Zoo. You can have a look at the following different animals and see what they are up to right now: Tiger, Koala, Panda, Penguin or a Rock hopper Penguin.

'I wonder what a Rock hopper penguin is.....'

Main Activity:

1. Invite your child to take a virtual trip to Edinburgh Zoo using the following link
<https://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk/webcams/>
2. Allow your child to have a look at what the animals are up to. Talk about what you can see, you may wish to ask the following questions: **What animal can you see? What colour is it? How many legs does it have?**
3. Once you have had a look at all the animals, ask your child to choose their favourite animal to do some research on. **'Research means finding out and learning something new'**.
4. Explain that together you are going to look for information about their chosen animal.
5. What information do you already know about your favourite animal?
6. Allow your child to have access to technology to find out new information (Adult supervision is advised).
7. Explain that together you will use the internet to help you learn something new.
8. Open up the search bar (google) and allow your child to type in their favourite animal (perhaps you could sound out the letters e.g. d-o-l-p-h-i-n, then you may add the word facts.
9. Open up the available links and read some of the information to your child. Whilst reading ask them **'Did you know that dolphins live in the sea?' or 'Did you know that dolphins are carnivores? That means they eat meat. What meat do you think they eat?'**
10. Try and find 3 pieces of new information about your favourite animal. Have FUN!

Activity review:

What is the name of your favourite animal?

What colour is it?

Where does it live - on land or in the water?

Why is it your favourite animal, what do you like about it?

What new information have you learned today about your favourite animal?

Additional ways to support your child:

-Support your child when using technology, explain the functions, i.e. the keyboard has letters to help you write words.

-Follow the link below to find websites to support your children with researching information about animals:

http://www.librarypatch.com/2015/01/10-animal-research-websites-for-kids_4.html

Extension:

-Can you create a poster to share the information you have learnt about a chosen animal?

-Allow your child to research something of their choice, e.g. toys, countries, food.