We are amazed by those fascinating animals that we only get to see in the zoo. Enjoy these fun stories and learn a bit in the nonfiction books. Each book is available online and can be accessed on a computer or device. Bonus points if you have one or two at home! Enrich the experience by doing the activities and singing the songs. Songs without a well-known tune have a link to a video to help.

**READ**

*(Overdrive: You will need a Gretna barcode and your phone number to log in. Please return Overdrive books promptly so others can enjoy them.)*

*Lion Lessons* by John Agée (*Brightly Storytime*)

*A Penguin Story* by Antoinette Portis (*TumbleBooks*)

*Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon (*Storyline Online*)

*Kyle Goes Alone* by John Thornhill (*TumbleBooks*)

*Shh! Bears Sleeping* by Steve Johnson (*Overdrive*)

*It’s a Tiger!* by David LaRochelle (*Overdrive*)

*I Wish I Were an Enormous Elephant* by Christina Jordan (*Abdo Digital*)

*Animals: Black & White* by Phyllis Limbacher Tildes (*TumbleBooks*)

**WRITE & TALK**

Find pictures of animal patterns on the internet. Use crayons or another way to imitate the animal’s patterns and colorings.

**Ideas:** Tear strips of orange paper and glue them to black paper to make tiger stripes. Dip the cut ends of celery into paint and stamp them to make fish scales. Use orange and brown LEGO bricks to make cheetah spots. To make zebra stripes, put strips of masking or painter’s tape down on white paper, then paint the whole thing with black paint, peeling the tape off once it dries.
I Went to the Zoo
I went to visit the zoo one day
And saw an elephant along the way!
And what do you think I heard him say?
(repeat with other animals and let your child guess before giving them the answer)

SING & PLAY

If I Were
(to the tune of "Here We Go ‘Round the Mulberry Bush")
Oh, if I were a tiny snake,
A tiny snake, a tiny snake.
Oh, if I were a tiny snake,
I'd slither around the zoo.
(elephant/march, kangaroo/hop, small penguin/waddle, silly monkey/swing)

Alligator, Alligator
Alligator, alligator,
(clap your arms together like a long alligator snout)
Long and green.
Alligator, alligator,
Teeth so mean.
Snapping at a fly.
(big clap)
Snapping at a bee.
(big clap)
Snapping at a frog.
(big clap)
But you can't catch me!
(jump backwards)

Monkey See, Monkey Do
Monkey see, monkey do,
Little monkey at the zoo.
Monkey, monkey, one, two, three,
Can you swing around like me?
(elephant/march, kangaroo/hop, small penguin/waddle, etc.)

I Went to the Zoo
I went to visit the zoo one day
And saw an elephant along the way!
And what do you think I heard him say?
(repeat with other animals and let your child guess before giving them the answer)

You Can Hear
(to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It")
You can hear the lions roaring at the zoo, ROAR!
You can hear the lions roaring at the zoo, ROAR!
You can hear the lions roaring, you can hear the lions roaring,
You can hear the lions roaring at the zoo, ROAR!
(Snakes hissing, bears growling, wolves howling, frogs croaking)