

## Theme: Animals

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The Learning Triangle is TV that teaches + storybooks + activities—all related to one idea or skill. Parents and educators use the Learning Triangle to help children learn by encouraging them to interact with people and objects around them. Use the information below to create a Learning Triangle about animals.

### TV that teaches

**Arthur.** #105—Arthur’s Pet Business

**Caillou.** #104—Pets

**Clifford the Big Dog.** #101—My Best Friend

**Teletubbies.** #404—Animal Rhymes

**Dragon Tales.** #2066—Have No Fear

### Storybooks

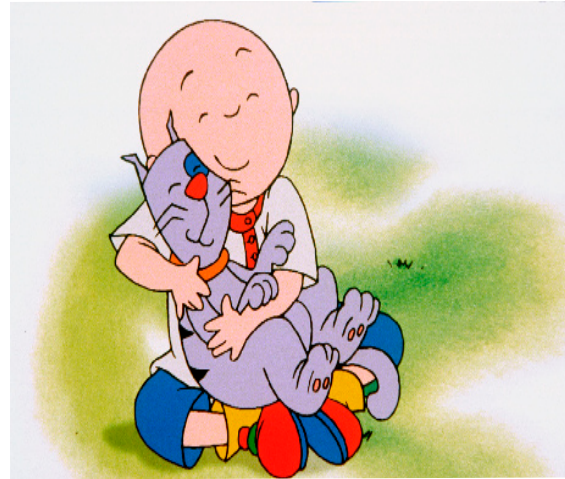
**Good Night, Gorilla** by Peggy Rathman

**Clifford the Small Red Puppy** by Norman Bridwell

**Oink, Moo, How Do You Do?** by Grace Maccarone

**And the Cow Said Moo** by Mildred Phillips

**Animals Should Definitely Not Wear Clothing** by Judi Barrett



### Activities

1. **Who Says..:** While driving in the car or waiting in a checkout line, ask your child, “Who says MOOO?” Imitate as many animals as you can. Include farm animals, zoo animals, pets, and animals in your neighborhood.
2. **Create a Zoo:** Gather stuffed animals and arrange them around a room to make a zoo. Help your child make signs with the animal names. Talk about what each animal eats, how it moves, where it lives, and what sound it makes. Take turns being the zookeeper.
3. **Animal Hunt:** Take a walk around your neighborhood and look for animals. Don’t forget to include birds and insects. When you return make a list or draw pictures of all of the animals you found.
4. **Take an Animal Field Trip:** Visit a pet store, farm, or petting zoo. Before you go, talk about the animals you might see. Talk about safe behavior around animals. While you are on your field trip, compare animals. Which ones are big? Which ones are small? Which ones fly? Which ones swim? When you get home draw a picture or tell a story about your favorite animal.
5. **Animal Charades:** Act like a monkey, shark, or snake and let your child guess what animal you are imitating. Let your child pretend to be an animal too. This game is more fun with more players, so invite a friend or sibling to join you.

WILL has many resources that support the education of young children. For more information, contact our educational outreach coordinator at **217-333-1070** or e-mail [delaney1@will.uiuc.edu](mailto:delaney1@will.uiuc.edu).

