



Animal Antics from 1 to 10

By David Wojtowycz

A colorful counting book, this book uses tongue twisters of animals in action to teach numbers from 1 to 10. Each page offers new animals in increasing numbers doing different things.

BEFORE READING:

- Show your child the front and back of the book. Ask him to guess what the book is about.
- Ask him what the sheep is wearing and why.

WHILE READING:

- Stop at any time if there is something you or your child would like to talk about.
- Ask him questions so that he can connect what is happening in the book to things he already knows about. Try some of these ideas:
 - What do you drink when you're thirsty?
 - What foods do you feast on?
 - What do you like to wear when you dance?

AFTER READING:

Spend some time talking about the story. Ask him things like:

- What was the warthog wearing?
- What were the frogs frightened of?
- How many sheep were singing?

Read this book several times to your child. Hearing the same story again and again helps him learn new words and understand the ideas he hears better. Each day, pick a different activity to do with your child after reading "Animal Antics from 1 to 10."



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MATH AND SCIENCE

Read the book backwards. Start with “ten tigers in tutus” and ask your child how many animals there would be if one left the room. Turn the page backwards to the “nine polite pigs.” Again, ask how many animals there would be if one left the room and turn the page to eight. Work backwards until there is only one.

READING READINESS

Help your child to trace the numbers with his hand as you read them on each page. Every time you see that number--on a box, a sign or in the newspaper-- have him trace with his finger again. Practice writing the number by tracing your fingers in sand, in a bowl of sugar, or in the bubbles of the tub.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Count your body parts as you move them around. Sing, “I have two hands that shake,” as you shake them all around. Or, “You have one arm that flaps and two legs that shimmy,” as you flap your arms and wiggle your legs.

MOTOR SKILLS

Make lacing cards using an old cereal box and a shoelace or a piece of yarn (wrap tape around the end of the yarn to make it easier to thread through). Have your child draw a picture of his favorite animals

from the book and cut the animals out for him. Use a hole punch or scissors to cut out holes and show him how to thread the yarn or shoelace through the holes.

THINKING SKILLS

Take turns thinking of the name of a different animal. Then, describe what your animal is wearing using clothes that start with the same first letter as the name of your animal. For example, if your child chooses “dog,” your dog could be wearing diamonds or diapers.

ART

Make your favorite animal. Have your child draw an outline of his favorite animal and help him cut it out. Use fabric scraps, yarn, ribbon, colored tissue paper or other things around the house for your child to “dress” his animal. Help him (if needed) to glue the different items on to give his animal a special outfit.

PRETEND PLAY

Pretend to be the different animals in the book. Use yarn for a wig, tango like the toucans, drink like the flamingos, be frightened like the frogs, feast like the foxes, sleep-walk like the skunks, sing like the sheep, exercise like the eagles, be polite like the pigs and dance in tutus like the tigers.

