



# Animals

Week 1	Farm Animals
Week 2	Zoo Animals
Week 3	Bugs
Week 4	More Bugs



Our character education focus will be on developing the concepts of *curiosity* and *compassion*.

## Dear Family,

When children are asked about things they are most curious about, animals always make the list and bugs are usually at the top. For the next four weeks, we will be immersed in the world of animals—farm animals, zoo animals, insects, and bugs. Children will learn about the appearance, habits, and needs of animals. They will learn about the habitats of different animals and use a checklist to determine whether a backyard critter is an insect or a bug. Enjoy their enthusiasm!

## Literacy

As you and your child discover critters in your backyard, garden, park, or vacant lot, sing this little song. Make up your own verses to tell about the insects and bugs you see.

### My Busy Garden

Pam Schiller

Tune: "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain"

Oh, the ants are busy digging all around—dig, dig.  
Oh, the ants are busy digging all around—dig, dig.  
See them scurry here and there, tossing dirt into the air.  
Oh, the ants are busy digging all around—dig, dig.

Oh, the bees are busy buzzing all around—buzz, buzz.  
Oh, the bees are busy buzzing all around—buzz, buzz.  
See them buzzing here and there, lots of pollen in the air.  
Oh, the bees are busy buzzing all around—buzz, buzz.

## Math

During our study of animals, children will be introduced to problem solving. We will use story scenarios to do beginning addition and subtraction problems. We will continue to work with shapes and create patterns. We are becoming much more sophisticated in the way we display the data we will collect. Often we make a real or picture graph and substitute stick-on dots for each picture to create a symbolic graph. At home, continue to encourage your child to sort and categorize anything and everything. Be sure to ask for an explanation of the rules used in sorting. The ability to verbalize these rules is important.

## Notes

For additional at-home activities, see the *Animals* PATT Mat.