

STORYTIME SAFARI

AGES

Children 4+ years

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

After a wild animal storytime, children roam around a room that has been set up as a safari! Craft options include simple binoculars and paper plate masks. For the safari, you will need to print and display photos of the featured animals; puppets or stuffed animals could also be used instead of photos. Depending on time and resources, consider adding habitats for each animal.

For a passive component, make a safari-themed selfie backdrop. The backdrop could be as simple as sheets of brown craft paper decorated with safari animals and taped to the wall. Consider props such as animal masks or “grass” glued to piece of cardboard that children can crouch behind with their binoculars. Teen volunteers could create the display and/or take the younger children’s pictures.

Suggested runtime: 120 minutes

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

For the safari, you will need:

- Animal photos, puppets, or stuffed animals
- Animal facts for older children

For the paper plate lion mask, you will need:

- Paper plates
- Yellow and orange construction paper
- Glue
- Popsicle sticks (optional)

Cut a round hole out of the center of a paper plate. Glue strips of yellow and orange construction paper around the edges for its mane. Add a popsicle stick handle if desired. (Or see Program Documents for printable masks to color.)

For the binocular craft, you will need

- Toilet paper rolls
- Construction paper
- Tape or glue
- A hole punch and string
- Stickers (optional)

ADAPTATION:

For older children, display animal tracks around the room and have them match animals to tracks. This could also be a passive program. See online manual for Animal Tracks Scavenger Hunt PowerPoint, which features animals that live in North America.

TIP:

Older children might also like the animal poop angle. Instead of matching animal tracks, match animal scat. Also consider the board game Who Pooped?: A Matching and Memory Game.

CRAFT | GAME/ACTIVITY | LOW COST

Wrap two rolls together with a strip of construction paper. Tape or glue firmly. Punch one hole in the outside edge of each roll and thread a string through both holes to serve as a strap. More detailed instructions here: <https://bit.ly/2WUcOeG>

UNIQUE SPACE AND PERSONNEL NEEDS

Add one additional staff member or volunteer to each craft station.

RESOURCES**Web**

A storytime safari from Miss Barbara at the Library: <https://bit.ly/2WOR6sG>

More lion ideas from Jen in the Library: <https://bit.ly/3fIMdKf>

Parrot/jungle theme ideas from Abby the Librarian: <https://bit.ly/3flbOTI>

Animal poop quiz from Boys Life: <https://bit.ly/3fFUbnn>

Grossology classroom activities (with scat chart): <https://bit.ly/2WOXuQB>

Picture Books

Along the Tapajós (2019) by Fernando Vilela and Daniel Hahn

An Ambush of Tigers: A Wild Gathering of Collective Nouns (2015) by Betsy R. Rosenthal and Jago Silver

Camp Tiger (2019) by Susan Choi

Giraffes Can't Dance (2012) by Giles Andreae

If You Are a Kaka, You Eat Doo Doo (2016) by Sara Martel and Sara Lynn Cramb (NF)

Operation: Photobomb (2019) by Becky Cattie, Tara Luebbe, and Matthew Rivera

Professional Crocodile (2017) by Giovanna Zoboli and Mariachiara Di Giorgio

Way Far Away on a Wild Safari (2006) by Jan Peck

We All Went on Safari: A Counting Journey Through Tanzania (2004) by Laurie Krebs

What Do They Do with All That Poo? (2018) by Jane Kurtz (NF)

TIP:

For more preschool picture books, check out the Early Literacy Book List!

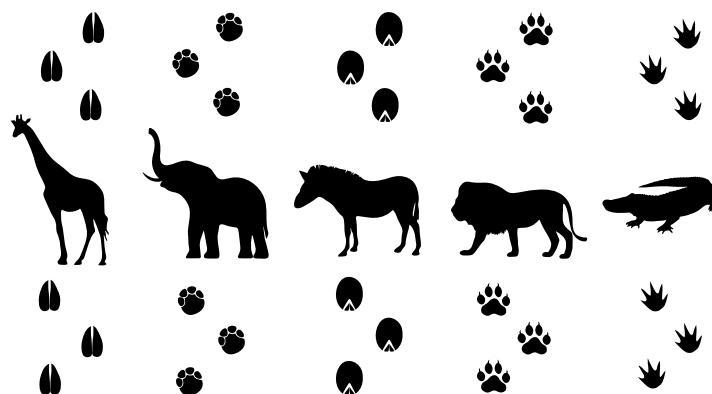
RESIZABLE DOWNLOADS

(SEE ONLINE MANUAL OR USB)

Safari Animals



Safari Animal Tracks & Silhouettes



Safari Icons



Simple Safari Animal Masks

