

Build a Zoo



Zoo

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Toddler
1.5 - 2.5 years

This is a fun and easy activity to do with any child, building on keeping their attention while allowing them to explore their creativity. This activity is also open to exploring different types of habitats that animals live in and what makes them unique!

Learning Outcomes

Domain:

Cognitive

Indicator:

Maintaining attention for increasing periods of time

Skills:

Self-regulation



Materials

- Craft paper
- Blocks
- Toy animals
- Crayons
- Painter's tape
- Scissors



Instructions

Step 1: Cut a large piece of the craft paper. If you don't have craft paper then you can take several pieces of paper and tape them together.

Step 2: Tape the paper down on the floor with the painter's tape.

Step 3: Start with deciding what habitats you want to create and start drawing a layout (for example: jungle, artic, or rainforest).

Step 4: Sort your toy animals according to their habitat and place them in the corresponding areas.

Step 5: Add blocks to the zoo to create homes for the animals.



Age Adjustments

For older preschoolers: Let them create the zoo floor plan layout and do the placements of the areas.

For younger toddlers: You will probably have to do the layout and start with 1-2 animal habitats, expanding as needed.



Playful Questions

- What animals do we see at the zoo?
- What do these animals eat?
- What kind of environment do they live in?
- What kind of sounds do these animals make?
- What other animals does this one remind you of?