

Animal Evening



This programme on a plate is designed to last a whole evening. You do not, however, have to use all of the activities suggested and they can be tailored to suit.

Arrival Activity

Animal Wordsearch – copy template onto card

Craft

Pen Top Snake

Game

Animal Safari

Game

Observation Game

Activity

Another idea that will go down well with all boys is to invite someone from the local pet shop or garden centre to visit one evening and to bring an animal that the boys will be interested in e.g. snake, lizard, etc.

Devotions

Talk: Tell the story of St Francis of Assisi in your own words. The story is readily available on the internet or in book shops. St Francis gave up a wealthy lifestyle to follow the teachings of Jesus.

Song: Who's the King Of The Jungle? (Junior Praise, 289)

Prayer: Thank God for animals. Think about the animals that have become endangered because of man.

Estimated Time:

10-15 minutes

30 minutes

15 minutes

15-20 minutes

10 minutes



Pen Top Snake



No maximum number
depending on adequate
supervision



30 minutes

Equipment:

- 1" pom-poms
- Chenille stems
- Foam sheets
- Pencils
- Double-sided sticky tape
- Goggle eyes (available from craft shops)
- Scissors (preferably decorative edged)
- Stapler
- Glue

The equipment for this activity should be available from a hobby/craft shop.

Instructions:

- The equipment for this activity should be available from your nearest hobby/craft store.
- Cut snake's head and tongue out of the foam.
- Plait or twist chenille stems together. You'll need 3 per boy.
- Place two strips of sticky sided tape across the head and make a hole as shown (in the middle). This is best done using a sharp pencil and performed by a leader.
- Pass the chenille stems through the hole to secure them in place. They need to be secured on the same side as the sticky tape.
- Remove the backing off the sticky tape and place 2 pom-poms on either side of the chenille stems. Fold over the foam head (in half) and secure the tongue in place with a little sticky tape at the tip of the head.
- To hold the head in the folded position (trapping the pom-poms and tongue) you will need to staple though both pieces of foam.
- Turn the head over so the staple ends are facing upwards and cut a small piece of foam using the fancy edge scissors and stick down with the double-sided tape so as to cover the staple ends. You may wish to put another strip of foam on the other side of the head to keep it as symmetrical as possible.
- Glue the goggle eyes on either side of the head (to the pom-poms).
- Take the other end of the chenille stems and fold them over about 1.2 cms in.
- Starting about halfway down the pencil coil the chenille stems tightly around the pencil. This should represent the snake's body.
- Finally bend the head over into place.



This activity requires the
use of scissors and glue.
Leaders should exercise
appropriate caution

Animal Safari



Instructions:

- This game is very simple but great fun.
- Ask the boys to form into a circle.
- Give them each an animal name, action and noise. E.g. elephant, use arm to waggle trunk and make trumpeting noise.
- One animal starts by making their actions/noises and passes on to another by making their actions and noises.
- This boy then responds by making his actions/noises and passing on to another boy.
- Start each boy with a set amount of points (around 10). Boys lose points when they fail to do their actions/noises or by passing it straight back to the person who passed it to them.



**No maximum number
depending on adequate
supervision**



15 minutes





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supervision



15 minutes

Observation Game

Equipment:

- TV/Video cartoon of Jungle Book or similar showing animals
- List of questions from the 10 minute clip

Instructions:

- This activity will require some forward planning. Before the session you will need to prepare a 10 minute clip from the Jungle Book or another film or cartoon showing animals.
- Ensure you know what happens in the clip and set questions on what happens in the clip.
- Ideal questions will test the boys' observation e.g. what colour were a certain animal's eyes?
- Before showing the clip to the boys tell them they need to be watching closely for all the things that happen and how things look. You can give them clues if you think they need to watch out for certain things.
- Once the clip has finished you can either give the boys pen and paper and get them all to write down responses to your question (which you will need to read out) or you can ask the questions and ask the boys to put their hands up.