

BLINK AT HOME

THE PERFECT ANIMAL HOME

What do different animals need in their homes?

Skills to Develop

- + Early literacy
- + Written communication
- + Verbal communication

Materials

- + Animal home booklist [PDF]
- + Books about animal homes
- + Paper
- + Crayons/markers/colored pencils

WHAT TO DO

During the Learning Activity

1. Choose your favorite books about animal homes or pick several from the booklist. Explain that you are going to read books to research more about animal homes and create art about each animal's home. Discuss that research is when we read books to learn. When you are finished, you will put your artwork together to create your own book about animal homes.
2. Choose one of the books to read first. As you read, discuss what you learn from the pictures and text about that animal and its home. After you have finished the book ask: *what kind of home did the animal live in? What made the home good for that animal? How did the home keep that animal safe? What else did we learn about the animal and its home?*
3. Invite your child to create artwork showing the animal in its home using whichever medium you prefer. As they work, ask questions about their process and the shapes and colors they choose.
4. Once they are finished, invite them to tell you about their completed artwork, the animal, and why the home is good for that animal. Record their words on their paper.
5. Repeat these steps with the other books. Adjust the research and creation process to the best length for your child.
6. When you have finished reading the books and creating works of art that summarize what you learn, bind the artworks together into your own book about animal homes using staples or another method.

Extend the Fun

- + Create animal homes from craft supplies or building materials.
- + Learn about animal homes in different habitats. Create a separate book for each habitat.

BLINK: THE PERFECT ANIMAL HOME

Animal home booklist: Print and use

What do different animals need in their homes?

- + *Home for a Bunny* by Margaret Wise Brown
- + *Home* by Carson Ellis
- + *In the Small, Small Pond* by Denise Fleming
- + *Jump into Science: Coral Reefs* by Sylvia Earle
- + *A House is a House for Me* by Mary Ann Hoberman
- + *Home for a Penguin, Home for a Whale* by Brenda Williams
- + *Even an Ostrich Needs a Nest* by Irene Kelly
- + *Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell and Patrick Benson
- + *Animal Homes* by Ann O. Squire
- + *Look Inside Animal Homes* by Emily Bone
- + *Peep Inside Animal Homes* by Anna Milbourne
- + *My Very First Book of Animal Homes* by Eric Carle
- + *Welcome Home, Bear* by Il Sung Na