



UNIT From Jungle to Desert, Unit 5 Week 4

THEME Desert Animals

BOOK *The Gingerbread Cowboy* by Janet Squires

READING ON YOUTUBE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FKD_Ombh00

OLLIE'S QUESTION What are desert animals like?

LITERACY To identify letter names and sounds Ff, Ss

MATH To recognize one-digit numerals

CONCEPT WORDS These words are basic words that relate to the theme and concept for each week. These words help with discussing the question of the week.

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| hide | To go somewhere or to put something where no one can see |
| lizard | An animal with four short legs and a long tail |
| snake | A long thin animal that has no legs. It moves by crawling and slithering |
| spider | A small animal with eight legs |
| turtle | An animal with a thick, hard shell on the outside of its body |
| under | Below or beneath something |

AMAZING WORDS These words increase and improve children’s vocabularies and understanding of the text and world around them.

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| burrow | To dig a hole in the ground |
| cowboy | Works on a cattle ranch and rides a horse |
| gobble | To eat something very quickly |
| herd | A group of the same kind of animal |
| sniff | To smell something with short and quick breaths |
| toss | To throw something |

Other Book Suggestions and YouTube Recommendations:

- *Way Out in the Desert* by T.J Marsh and Jennifer Ward <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJlur0DDWUJ>
- *The Three Little Javelinas* by Susan Lowell <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRs1JlhPuR0>
- *Guess Who’s in the Desert?* By Charline Profiri <https://youtu.be/9kjlUr4ScSo>
- *A Walk in the Desert* by Caroline Arnold <https://youtu.be/uw2yFf3vn94>
- “What is a Desert?” MooMoo Math <https://youtu.be/mjaVm0vs2HY>
- “How Do Animals Survive in the Desert?” https://youtu.be/3XF42x_72Xs

Ideas for At Home Activities:

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| Pretend & Learn | Pretend you are on a trip in the desert and let your child be the tour guide. Help your child describe what may be seen on the desert tour (sand, rocks, cacti, desert animals, etc.) |
| ABC | Use alphabet letter cards or make some using small pieces of paper/index cards with uppercase and lowercase letters written on them. Place the letter cards around the room or the home. Shout out a letter. Ask your child to move quickly to find it and bring it back to you. Then, let your child call out a letter and you move quickly to find it and bring it back. Continue playing until all letters have been found. |

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| Writing | Help your child write your name or a sibling's name on a piece of paper. Ask your child to think of other family and friends' names to write. |
| Math | Call out a one-digit numeral (0 – 9) and ask your child to push that number on a phone or calculator. You can also help your child write the one-digit numerals. |
| Science/Social Studies | Pretend to be a news anchor and let your child be the meteorologist. The "meteorologist" can tell about the weather outside your home and what the weather might be in the desert. |
| Art | Ask your child to create a self-portrait using any materials you can find in the house (cereal, dry pasta, buttons, paper, cloth, string, yarn, crayons, markers, paint, etc.). |
| Sensory | Let your child explore in water using different types of bath toys (cups, measuring spoons, etc.) while in the bathtub. |
| Building | Help your child build a safari jeep for traveling through the desert. Use a cardboard box and ask your child to draw wheels and other details. Instead of a box, you could use two chairs (Jeep seats) and a plastic or paper plate (for the steering wheel). Off you go! |
| Social-Emotional Activity | Observe your child interacting with others such as siblings, grandparents, friends, neighbors. Give praise when they initiate positive social interactions. "That was very nice of you to hold the door open for your grandmother," "Thank you for taking turns with your sister," "Helping Mr. Brown rake his yard was so thoughtful." |

*The links contained on this resource are websites that contain materials and tools that may be used to provide additional resources to parents or students. This information is only intended to be a general summary of information provided to the public. The Mississippi Department of Education does not endorse or promote any commercial products or services. The views and opinion of authors expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the MDE, and they may not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes. Please make sure that you choose the tool(s), resource(s) or material(s) that are developmentally appropriate and best fit the needs of your students, school, or district.