



# Picture News

## In the Early Years

### Speaking and Listening

**EYFS Framework:** Children listen attentively in a range of situations. They respond to what they hear with relevant comments and questions. Children talk about similarities and differences in relation to living things.

**Look at the Picture News poster:** What can you see? Where do you think this photo has been taken?

*Think about: What is a zoo? What animals do you think you might find at a zoo? Which animal would you enjoy seeing the most? Are there any animals you wouldn't like to see? Why not?*

Zoos had to shut in March due to the coronavirus but were allowed to open their doors again on the 15<sup>th</sup> June. The people, who own and work at the zoos, are very happy that they can finally let in visitors to their zoo as they were very worried that they would not be able to afford to look after all their animals.

*Think about: How does a zoo make money and what do they use that money for? Discuss that a zoo makes its money by visitors paying to go and see all the animals. When the zoo was shut it couldn't make any money at all. The zoo needs money to pay for all the animal's food and bedding and to pay all the people who work there!*

#### **Question: How does a zoo take care of all its animals?**

Tell the children that whilst the zoo was shut to visitors, the zookeepers (the people who look after the animals at the zoo) still needed to go to work every day as they have lots of jobs to do in order to take good care of the animals.

*Think about: What jobs do you think the zookeepers need to do every day?*

Look at the **EY Resource**, which shows some of the different things a zookeeper needs to do.

*Think about: Did you think of all these different jobs? Would you enjoy being a zookeeper? Which of the jobs would you enjoy doing? Which would you rather not do? Why not?*

#### **Useful Video:**

**Months of the Year Song/ Song for Kids/ The Singing Walrus**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fe9bnYRzFvk>

### **Small World:** Can you act out being a zookeeper and care for an animal in the zoo?

**EYFS Framework:** Uses language to recreate roles and experiences in play situations.

*Think about: Which animal are you going to take care of? Can you make it a home? What will you need to put in their home to make sure the animal is happy? E.g. monkeys needs lots of things to climb and swing from. What will you need to do to take care of that animal? What food will they eat? Will their pen need cleaning? Is your animal a dangerous animal? If so, how will you feed it and clean it out safely?*

**Resources:** Small world animals or soft toy animals, boxes or bricks to make a home for the animal, shredded paper or other soft material for animal bedding.

### **Writing:** Can you help the zoo by writing a sign to help keep the animals and the visitors safe?

**EYFS Framework:** Gives meaning to marks they make as they draw, write and paint. Uses some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning, representing some sounds correctly and in sequence.

*Think about: What signs do you think a zoo would need to put up to keep people safe from the animals? Do you think people would be able to touch all the animals? Why not? What sign would we also put up to help keep the animals safe? Should people be allowed to feed the animals whatever they like? How could we make sure no one scares the animals?*

**Resources:** Sign writing proforma (see EY Additional resource 1), pencil, sound mat

### **Maths:** Can you put the months of the year in the correct order?

**EYFS Framework:** Children use everyday language to talk about time.

Discuss with the children that all zoos were shut for almost 3 months!

*Think about: Do you know the months of the year? What month are we in now? The zoos shut in March, what month came after March?*

Practise saying the months of the year in order. You could use the months of the year song in the useful video section. Then see EY Additional Resource 2, where the children can cut out and put the different months of the year in order.

*Think about: Which is the first month of the year? What sound does January start with? Can you find all the months that start with the letter J? What sound can you hear after the J?*

**Resources:** Months of the year video (see Useful video section), months of the year to cut out and order (see EY Additional Resource 2 and print A3 if possible), scissors, glue stick

### **Being Imaginative:** Can you paint your favourite zoo animal?

**EYFS Framework:** Create simple representations and chooses particular colours to use for a purpose.

*Think about: Which is your favourite animal? What colours do you need to paint it? What shape is its head, body? What else does your animal need to have?*

**Resources:** Images of different animals, children's paint, paint brush, apron, paper, water