Animals in Your Neighborhood

- We are going to learn more about the animals around our homes!
- Some of us live in D.C., some in Maryland, and some in Virginia but we all have similar animals in our backyards!
Let’s Sing A Song!

Five Little Ducks

Five little ducks
Went out one day
Over the hills and far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack, quack"
But only four little ducks came back.

...(Continue counting down)

One little duck
Went out one day
Over the hills and far away
Mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack, quack."
But none of the five little ducks came back.

Sad mother duck
Went out one day
Over the hills and far away
The sad mother duck said
"Quack, quack, quack."
And all of the five little ducks came back.

Image courtesy of babysignlanguage.com
Jump Like a Fox!

- Foxes are able to jump pretty high, so see how high your child can jump, like a fox.
- If your child is walking confidently, encourage them to try jumping up and down.
- Bend down low, and jump up into the air with your hands over your head, the more exaggerated the better!
- **Don't forget:** jumping is hard! Your child's first jumps might look more like squats than jumps but keep encouraging them to practice!

1 Image Courtesy of: citywildlife.org
What Does the Fox Say?²

- Listen to the sounds a fox makes
- It sounds similar to a dog barking!
- Youtube Video:
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_o-TlmnrNo&feature=youtu.be

² https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/red-fox-vulpes-sitting-attention-direct-392638390
Squirreling Away Some Snacks

- Squirrels are probably the most common thing we see in our neighborhoods. They are in the trees, in the streets, and in our yards looking for a yummy snack!
- Squirrels love nuts, seeds, fruits and bugs but they don’t always remember where they buried their food for later.
- Let’s make them some snacks that are easy, yummy, and safe for your children too!

Image Courtesy of: citywildlife.org

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3 Image Courtesy of: citywildlife.org
## Squirrel Snack Recipe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Directions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 1 large egg</td>
<td>1. Preheat oven to 375F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 1 ½ cups all purpose flour</td>
<td>2. Grease two cookie sheets or line with aluminum foil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ½ cup of unsalted butter</td>
<td>3. Combine all dry ingredients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ½ cup of sugar</td>
<td>4. Add wet ingredients and mix until well combined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ½ teaspoon of baking soda</td>
<td>5. Press flat with the palm of your hand or a fork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ½ cup of brown sugar</td>
<td>6. Bake one sheet at a time for 10-12 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 1 cup of peanut butter (crunchy or smooth)</td>
<td>7. Remove from cookie sheet and let cool on a cooling rack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>○ Feel free to sub out for any kind of nut or sun butter you prefer!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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4 Recipe Courtesy of: [https://www.birdsandblooms.com/blog/squirrel-cookie-recipe](https://www.birdsandblooms.com/blog/squirrel-cookie-recipe)
Birds of D.C. in National Museum of Natural History
## Life Sized Bird Nest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials</th>
<th>Directions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ● A big box or a large laundry basket  
● Fillings  
  ○ Blankets  
  ○ A few sticks  
  ○ You  
  ○ Anything you’d like  
● Balls, balloons, or toy eggs | 1. Place all of your items inside your nest  
2. Make it cozy!  
3. Sit inside your nest while you watch or listen to the birds  
   a. This can be fun for any age: infants, toddlers, older children or adults! |
Sensory Bottle

- To remember your time outside looking for your neighborhood animals make a sensory bottle or bag
- Take a water bottle or sturdy plastic bag and while outside with your child collect:
  - Sticks, leaves, grass, rocks, etc.
- After it’s secured tight, let your child shake it up or explore!^