

# Little Kids First Big Book of Animals

## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

**Themes:** Animals, Habitats

**Grade Level:** K to 2nd grade

**Book Brief:** A fun, informative book with colorful pictures and interesting facts about a variety of animals.

**Author:**

Catherine D. Hughes



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading:** This is a great book for children to explore different animals and their habitats. You may want to choose one habitat at a time and read only about the animals in that section.

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### GRASSLAND GROWTH (AGES 5-9)

Materials: plastic cups, soil, grass seed, paint, brush, paper, scissors

Plant some grass seed in a clear cup of soil and water lightly. Once the grass sprouts, cut it to about 1" tall. Using a paint brush, gently brush the blade tips with paint. Observe how the grass grows. Does it grow from the top or the bottom? Why would this be helpful for the animals in the grasslands habitat? Make some small animal drawings, cut them out, and hide them in your grass.

### OCEAN MURALS (AGES 5-9)

Materials: bulletin board paper, crayons, blue paint, water, paint brushes

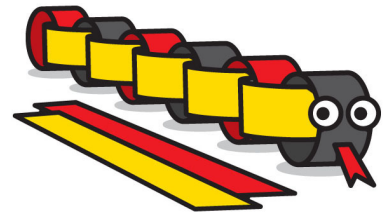
Let children show their creative sides by drawing their favorite ocean animals in crayon on the large

paper. Dilute blue paint with water and use paint brushes to paint the entire paper. The paint won't stick to the wax in the crayons, so the ocean animals will pop!

### DEADLY IN THE DESERT (AGES 5-9)

Materials: construction paper strips (red, black, yellow), glue sticks

The desert coral snake is a venomous snake often confused with the harmless king snake. Teach children this rhyme to remember which snake is dangerous: red touch yellow, kill a fellow; red touch black, venom it lacks. Have children use paper strips to make a paper chain coral snake. Begin with black and alternate with a yellow, red, yellow, black pattern. Once completed, add eyes and mouth to one end.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

*National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Space*, Catherine D. Hughes (2012),  
*National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Why*, Amy Shields (2011),  
*Nat Geo Wild Animal Atlas: Earth's Astonishing Animals and Where They Live* (2002).

### TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

[www.rif.org.kids](http://www.rif.org.kids)

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