

Science Story Adventures



Fathers

Learning outcomes

» Plants and animals have predictable life cycles.

(Life Sciences – Grade 2)

» Organisms reproduce offspring of their own kind and that the offspring resemble their parents and one another. (Life Sciences – Grade 2)

» Adaptations in physical structure or behavior may improve an organism's chance for survival.

(Life Sciences – Grade 3)

From: California's Science Content Standards

Books we read

The Very Best Daddy of All by Marion Dane Bauer

My Father Knows the Names of Things by Jane Yolen

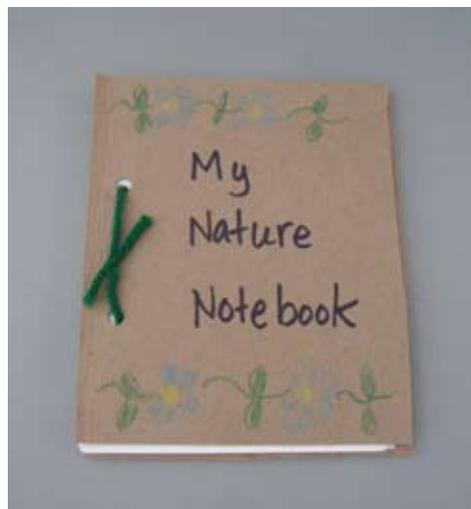
Activities we did

» We learned about different animal fathers that help care for their young and did an activity where we pretended to be emperor penguin fathers by balancing our hacky sac "eggs" on our feet.

» We learned about the great blue heron parents that are currently caring for their young near Stow Lake here in Golden Gate Park.

» We talked about different things our fathers, uncles or grandfathers do with and for us.

Today's craft: Nature Notebook



You will need:

- » 2 small rectangle-shaped pieces of cardboard
- » 20 pieces of paper that are slightly smaller than the pieces of cardboard
- » Yarn
- » Scissors
- » Hole puncher
- » Pencil
- » Crayons

Directions:

1. Punch two holes about 2 in (5 cm) apart along the long side of the cardboard and paper, making sure they line up.
2. Stack the paper in between the two pieces of cardboard. Thread the yarn through the holes and tie it off to keep the notebook together.
3. Decorate the cover of your notebook.
4. Take notes and draw pictures of things you and your father (or other adult) see in nature and/or in the Naturalist Center.

Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

Books

Baby Badger's Wonderful Night by Karen Saunders.

Baby badger sees the night as dark and scary, but when his father takes him for a night stroll he soon learns all the wonders and magic of nature at night.

Daddy Hugs by Tim Warnes.

Discover the many ways animal fathers show their love through rhyming text and playful illustrations.

Does a Duck Have a Daddy? by Fred Ehrlich.

Introduces young readers to the similarities and differences of how human fathers care for their young and how various animal fathers do.

Mister Seahorse by Eric Carle. Nat. Ctr. Juv. PZ7 .C2147 Mg 2004

As Mister Seahorse swims through his ocean home he encounters other fish fathers who also take special care of their young in different ways.

My Father is Taller than Tree by Joseph Bruchac.

Explores the ways that many different fathers and sons spend time together and the preciousness of those shared moments.

DVDs

The Life of Birds. Nat. Ctr. Media QL698.3 .L53 2002.

Disc 3 contains two episodes that look at bird parenting.

March of the Penguins. Nat. Ctr. Media QL696 .M36 2005

This moving documentary shows the extraordinary lengths that Emperor Penguin parents go to when raising their chicks.

Websites

Animal Super-Dads

Usually it's the mother that looks after the young, but in a few rare cases it's the dad that does the work.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/seahorse/superdads.html>

ARKive: Emperor Penguin

Delve into the world of the emperor penguin through facts, photos and videos.

<http://www.arkive.org/emperor-penguin/aptenodytes-forsteri/>

National Geographic: Seahorse

Learn more about these amazing little creatures, including that the fathers carry their eggs until they hatch.

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/fish/seahorse>