



# ANIMAL PARENTING SKILLS

Observe behaviors of animal parents at the zoo



## GRADE K

### KEY WORDS

- adult
- nurse
- raise
- young

### STANDARD

- SCI.K.3

### OBJECTIVES

- Students will learn how the amount of care given by adults to their young varies greatly among the species.
- Students will compare the way that animals care for their young to the way that humans care for their children.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- The vast majority of animal species do not care for their young.
- The amount of care provided is closely related to the number of young produced in a single birth.
- The more offspring that are produced, the less a parent will care for them.
- Many birds and mammals are helpless at birth.
- The parental role involves food gathering, protection, and teaching.

### PROCEDURE

- When at the zoo, have the students look for examples of animal parents caring for their young in ways similar to how human parents care for their children.

### RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- Check the student's work for accuracy.

### EXTENSIONS

- Have the students observe baby animals at the zoo and pay attention to how much care they receive from their parents.

### TEACHER HINTS

- Check the zoo's website or a newsletter to make sure there are a few different animal babies available to observe.





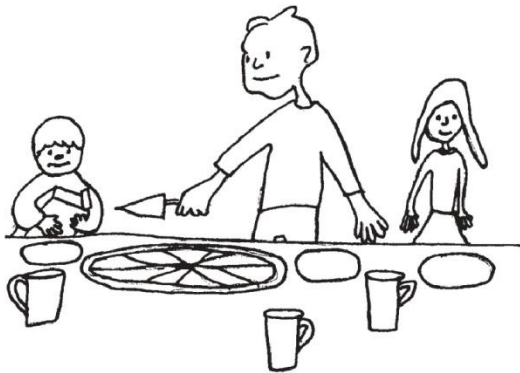
# ANIMAL PARENTING SKILLS

Find examples of animal parents acting in the ways shown below.



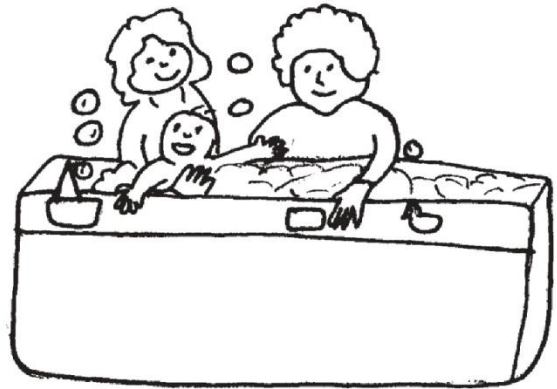
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## FEEDING



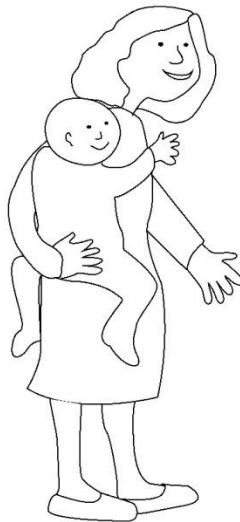
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## CLEANING



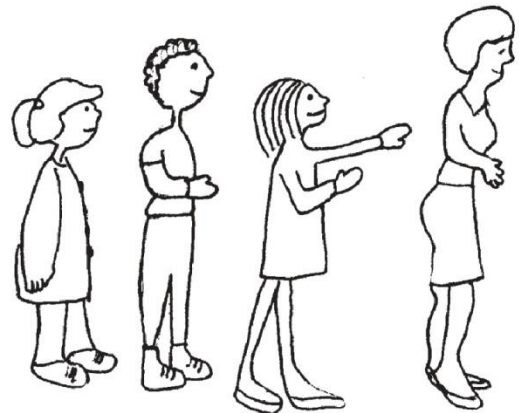
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## CARRYING



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## LEADING



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