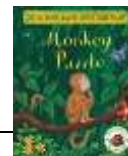




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**This week's story is:** Monkey Puzzle by Julia Donaldson.

Watch Mrs Jones read the story <https://youtu.be/CHC9YK88G7E>

**Talk about it:** The baby monkey is missing his mum and can't find her close by. This offers a great discussion around feelings.

- *How do you think the monkey is feeling at the beginning of the story? What makes you feel that way?*
- *How do you think the monkey is feeling when the butterfly kept taking them to the wrong animal? Have you ever felt that way? Why?*
- *How do you think the monkey is feeling when he is back with his mum? What makes you feel like this?*

Can you draw a picture of your family?

**Letters and sounds:** Play What's in the Box

Gather together toy animals or pictures of animals and put them in a bag or a bowl. Take out an animal but keep it hidden. You say the initial sound. The other person has to guess the animal. Swap over.

Improve your listening skills by playing this game on Phonics Play.

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/1/welcome-to-the-zoo>

One of the great things about Monkey Puzzle is the rhyming thread that runs throughout. The book offers opportunity for discussion about rhyming words in the story.

*Once your child has heard the story a few times, can you try seeing if they can fill in the missing word? e.g.*

*'My mum isn't a great grey hunk.  
She hasn't got tusks or a curly .....*

**Imagination Time**

Pretend you are exploring the jungle. What will you need to take with you to spot the animals? Binoculars, a notebook and pen, lunch! Make sure you keep out of sight so that the animals do not see you.



**Time to make things**

Not everyone has a pair of binoculars so here is a video of how to make some from toilet rolls or plastic bottles.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpiaTXs7I04&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpiaTXs7I04&feature=emb_logo)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iM-oM8fPduo&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iM-oM8fPduo&feature=emb_logo)

**Maths:** This week's focus is number 5. Watch and sing along to the counting song - five little monkeys.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-five-little-monkeys-swinging-from-a-tree/z6x9382>

Can you count the bananas to feed the monkey? See the feed the monkey game attached in your pack.

**Size:** Who is the biggest?

Throughout the story there are animals of all different shapes and sizes. Can you find the smallest animal? Can you find the biggest animal?

- *In your house, can you find things that are smaller than you? Can you find things that are bigger than you?*
- *Can you choose two different objects and order them from smallest to biggest? Can you find 3?*

Can you compare the sizes of the objects on the beach or the size of the animals? Which is the biggest? Which is the smallest? Which is the tallest? Which is the shortest?

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/early-years/lets-compare>

**Physical:**

**Let's get moving**

Here are some ideas for how you could move like the animals in the song.

Chimpanzee - pretend to swing through trees .Lion - prowl slowly on hands and feet.  
Elephant - large stomping movements.

Zebra - galloping movements.

Snake - slither along floor.

Giraffe - stretch up tall and walk around slowly on tiptoes.

Hippopotamus - crouch or lie on the floor.

Crocodile - move quickly making large snapping movements with hands.

Gorilla - stand still and (gently!) beat chest.

Tiger - crouch and pounce around.

Leopard - run around avoiding obstacles.

**Cooking or baking:**

Monkeys like bananas- why not try and make your own frozen banana chocolate pop. See recipe below.



**Singing**

Walking through the jungle - a counting and listening activity song from

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GoSq-yZcJ-4&list=PL0575fXZAmkSvLjWd0hFakVfs8gDh8TI&index=8>

Down in the jungle

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/schoolradio/nursery-rhymes-down-in-the-jungle/zfqgscw>

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### Creative: Making Marks

#### Printing with animals/toys



Use toys/animals to make marks with paint.  
If you don't have paint you could use shaving foam and make footprints in the shaving foam.

### Butterflies

Let children experiment by making marks with paint on one half of the paper. Help them to fold it over. Now you have a beautiful symmetrical butterfly!

Making marks with pencils, pens, paint, chalk or in other materials such as shaving foam or sand is a really important step to support early writing. Please see the flyer attached with other ways to support your child's mark making at home.



### Music:

Go on an imaginative journey deep into the Brazilian Rainforest to meet some songbirds, eat some fruit and do a lot of musical learning along the way!

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/the-rainforest-part-1-c8r6cc>

We will revisit the colourful rainforest and further explore our voices by improvising birdsongs, dance to some Brazilian drumming and make up some funky fruit rhythms

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/the-rainforest-part-2-64wk8t>

### Understanding of the world:

Within the story, Monkey is confused when Butterfly keeps taking him to the wrong animal when trying to find his mum. Butterfly doesn't realise that his mum looks just like him because her children look different to her. Together with your children, can you look at a picture of them as a baby (0-18 mths) and talk about what they looked like. Then together look at a more recent picture of them, can they talk about any changes that they can see?

- *What did you look like when you were a baby?*
- *How have you changed?*
- *Is anything still the same about you?*

## Frozen Banana Pops

### You need

- 1 bag of chocolate chips ( or can melt any chocolate)
- Sprinkles
- Bananas
- Lollipop sticks

### What to do

1. Place the chocolate chips into a microwave-safe bowl, and microwave on Low until the chips barely melt, about 2 minutes. Stir the melted chips smooth. Place the sprinkles into separate shallow bowls.
2. Dip each banana half in melted chocolate, then roll in candy sprinkles.
3. Stick a lollipop stick into the bottom of the banana
4. Place the coated bananas on waxed paper, and freeze until the chocolate hardens, about 5 minutes. If you don't want to freeze it you can eat just eat it once you have dipped the bananas into the chocolate and sprinkles
5. ENJOY



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