

# Theme: Snow Animals!

## Week 1

This document contains all of the activities for the theme “for the age group “Littles.”

Have fun!

Questions or comments? Please email us at

[playconnecttoday@gmail.com!](mailto:playconnecttoday@gmail.com)

All activities require adult supervision!

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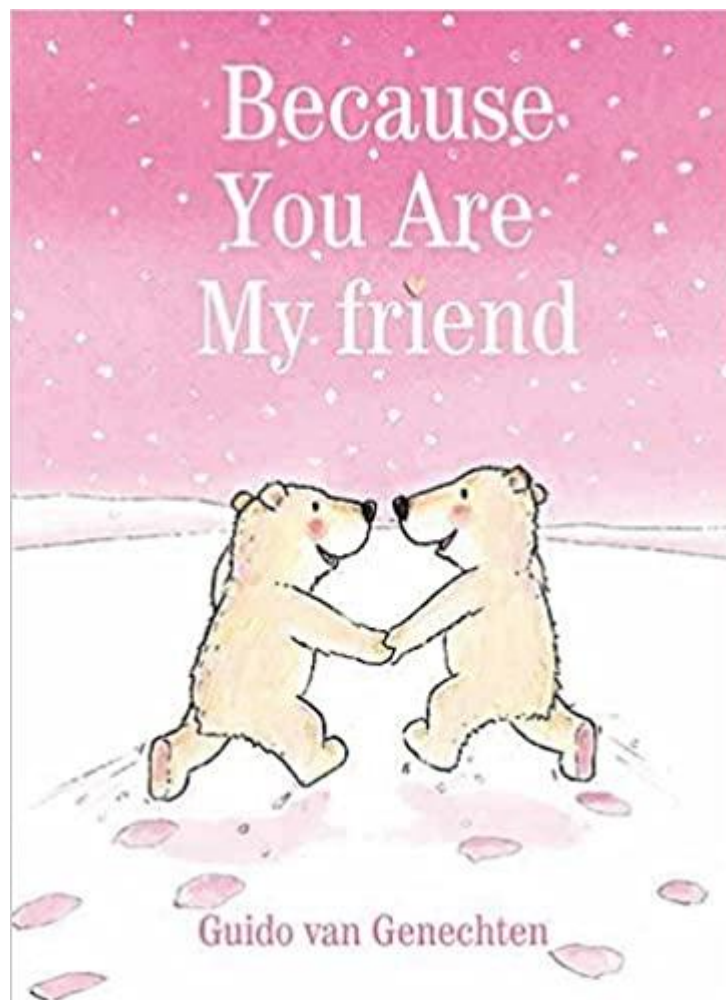
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## Book Suggestion

### “Because you are my Friend”

(We highly recommend checking your local library for this book, however if you cannot find it-please see link on our “Theme extras” web page to purchase if desired or find another book that showcases snow animals)! - We suggest using the same book for two weeks as this really helps children gain reading comprehension of the book!



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# Song Suggestion


## Penguins waddling

*Written by: Play Connect LLC*

5 little penguins were waddling  
Until 1 saw some water and jumped right in!

4 little penguins were waddling  
Until 1 saw some water and jumped right in!

3 little penguins were waddling  
Until 1 saw some water and jumped right in!

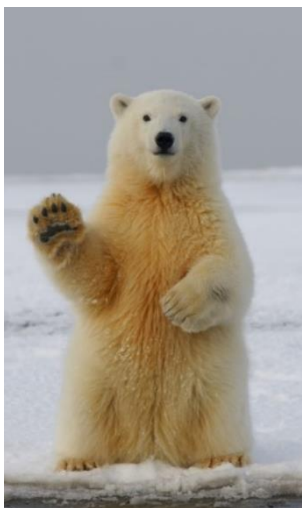
2 little penguins were waddling  
Until 1 saw some water and jumped right in!

1 little penguin was waddling  
Until 1 saw some water and jumped right in!

No little penguins are waddling  
They have all decided to go for a swim

# Simple Vocabulary Words

These are optional vocabulary cards to show your child before reading the story to help with understanding. It is also a great idea to point out the animals while reading the book!



**POLAR BEAR**



**SEAL**



**PENGUIN**



**WALRUS**

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**SNOWY OWL**



**ARCTIC FOX**



**ARCTIC**

# Art Project: Polar Bear

## What you need for this activity:

- \*Non-toxic Glue
- \*Child-safe scissors
- \*White paper plate (or large white circle)
- \*2 white half circles (for the ears)
- \*1 black circle cut from construction paper for nose
- \*2 black circles cut from construction paper for eyes (or googly eyes)
- \*White cotton balls, tissue paper, ripped white paper
- \*Black yarn or pipe cleaner

## Directions:

Step 1: Cut two half circles out of the white paper and attach them to the back of your paper plate towards the top (for the ears).

Step 2: Cover the front of the plate in cotton balls, tissue paper, ripped up white paper etc. using your glue.

Step 3: Cut a circle for the nose (if you are not using googly eyes, two more for the eyes) and glue them onto the plate.

Step 4: Add a mouth using black yarn or pipe cleaner.

# **Fine Motor Activity: Horizontal lines**

## **introduction**

### **What you need for this activity:**

- \*Space to move around
- \*An example of a horizontal line (could be drawn on a piece of paper)
- \*Optional- Salt or sand tray (cookie sheet with salt or sand in it for tracing)

### **Directions:**

Various types of lines are important for children to begin engaging with as they form the structure of letters! When they practice forming these lines, they are setting themselves up to start writing!

Show children an example of a horizontal line (can be on a piece of paper, could be tape on the floor etc.) Let them trace it with their fingers. Then, let them explore and see if they can find any horizontal lines in the space you have! If you would like to lengthen this activity, you can make a salt tray (a cookie sheet with salt in it) and let them trace their fingers in the tray. (Sand is another good option for the tray)!

\*Snow option! If you have snow in your area, this is a great opportunity to play outside too-make horizontal lines in the snow with sticks! See who can make a straight line by dragging a stick across the snow-does the bottom of your sled make lines??

# Math Activity:

## Greater than/less than snowball activity

### What you need for this activity:

\*Dice- at this age, depending on children's counting ability, you can block off numbers 4,5,6 on the dice and replace them with another set of 1,2,3 dots

\*Snowballs (cotton balls work for this)! - or if you have enough arctic animal manipulatives that works great too!

### Directions:

Explain that you will play a game today (we recommend limiting this game to two players for ease of understanding). Let children roll dice, one at a time and collect the number of snowballs show on the dice (i.e., roll a 1, collect 1 snowball). At first let them just experiment with this. Then transition into showing who has a greater number of snowballs and who has a lesser number. This begins the understanding of greater than, less than!



Child rolls a 2, grabs two "snowballs"  
Which group has a greater amount?



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# Language Activity: “I’m Walking through the snow game”

## What you need for this activity:

\*Snow animals (puppets, plastic figures etc.) if you have them. If not, you can print off the vocabulary words.

## Directions:

This game is best played in a group of three or more children, however it’s certainly possible to play with only two. This game allows children to practice their snow animal vocabulary and oral language skills while also being active!

\*One child (or an adult) is the “arctic leader” to start and says “I’m walking through the snow and I see...” (insert snow animal here-show puppet or figurine) the other child(ren) must then act as that animal. I.E.

“Penguin”- waddle like a penguin and squawk

“Polar Bear”-Crawl on all fours and roar

“Seal”-Lay on your belly moving around saying arf

\*Snowy Owl- pretend to fly around

-variation of this game: One child is the leader and another is the polar bear-when the leader “sees the polar bear” the other children must run away and try to not get caught.

# Science Activity: How does a polar bear stay warm?

## What you need for this activity:

- \*Plastic container with ice water
- \*3 small Ziploc plastic bags
- \*Shortening
- \*Spatula

## Directions:

Let children experiment with sticking their hands in the cold water-ask them how does it feel?

How do they keep their hands warm when it's cold outside-then ask how they think polar bears do it. There's a good chance that many of them will say with fur-which is part of the reason but it is also due to the blubber (i.e., fat) on the polar bear.

Then:

- \*Turn one small bag inside out, place it on the child's hand and cover it in shortening-really cover it!
- \*Place the shortening covered bag into a clean Ziploc bag (so you don't get shortening in the water).
- \*Put both hands in the water at the same time and see which one stays warmer!

\*Give the simple explanation that polar bears (and many other arctic animals) have a bunch of blubber-like the shortening and that keeps them warm when it's really cold outside!

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