

Learning Experiences

Cognitive Development

The development of problem solving and thinking skills, which help children to explore and understand the world around them.



Gangly And Gorgeous

Gangly and Gorgeous live in the savannah. Use the images in the book to create a list of words that describe the savannah.

As a class discuss how it would feel to live and survive in this environment. Then look at other environments in the world, eg. rainforest, to see the similarities and differences.

Did you know that Giraffes only need 5 to 30 minutes sleep each day (24 hours)? Imagine that was the only sleep we had as humans.

Discuss with the class the importance of sleep and rest and how that helps our minds and bodies.

Gangly and Gorgeous eat leaves in the story, and real-life giraffes are herbivores. Chat with the class about what a herbivore is.

Research and compile a list of other animals that are herbivores. For example, kangaroos are herbivores and part of the mammal family.

The Imagineland kids have many questions when they meet Gangly and Gorgeous.

Have the children think about other questions they would have asked Gangly and Gorgeous if they had met them.

Learning Experiences

Language Development

The development of language and communication skills. Essential for interacting with and understanding others, including speech, body language, signs and symbols.



Gangly And Gorgeous

Giraffes communicate with a variety of sounds, including a low pitch noise that is beyond the range of human hearing.

How do humans communicate with one another? Discuss as a class group. Think about verbal and non-verbal communication.

In Gangly and Gorgeous' story, there are many rhyming words.

Ask the children to listen for the words that rhyme in the story. Make a list of the words they identify.

Play or read the story again and ask the children to clap each time they hear a rhyming word.

In the story and song of Gangly and Gorgeous, there are many words repeated.

Create flashcards for the children of these words, so they can recognise and recall them when they listen/read/hear the story. The cards could be used to create more sentences using these familiar words.

After reading the story with the class group, ask the children if they would like to write a new ending for the story. Instead of having a party, what else could possibly happen?

Break into small groups and ask the children to describe to you their new ending.

Record and write these out to share with the whole group.

Learning Experiences

Physical Development

The development of fine and gross motor skills allow children to use and control their bodies to complete tasks and activities.



Gangly And Gorgeous

Gangly and Gorgeous are large animals with long legs and long necks.

Do some stretching exercises as a group to extend your limbs. Stand on your tiptoes with your arms stretched out high above your head. Close your eyes while you stretch and think about what you could possibly reach.

Discuss this as a group.

In the savannah, animals can reach fast speeds when they are chasing their prey or escaping danger. A lion can run at 80 kms per hour.

In an open space, set up a short, middle and longer distance to run. After the children have practiced running fast, use a stopwatch to time them at the different distances.

Gangly and Gorgeous love to dance and have parties.

As a class, create the savannah dance using the movements of these graceful animals.

Share your dance with neighbouring classes and family.

Giraffes are unique in their appearance with intricate spot patterns on their bodies.

Enhance the children's fine motor skills by asking them to paint the pattern on a giraffe using fine paintbrushes.

Learning Experiences

Social & Emotional Development

The development of social and emotional skills required to form; and sustain positive relationships and manage and express emotions. Children start to understand who they are, what they are feeling, and how to interact with others.



Gangly And Gorgeous

Gangly and Gorgeous are friendly characters.

As a class group, create a class list of qualities identified around being a good friend.

Refer to this list with the children, if required, to self-regulate friendship groups.

Living in the savannah and surrounding jungle can be dangerous for the animals and would cause them to feel a variety of emotions.

Discuss, with the children, different types of emotions that are sometimes felt in certain scenarios.

Eg. scared, frustrated, happy.

Did you know that no two giraffes are exactly the same? The pattern of their spots may be similar, but not identical. Just like humans.

Have the children complete a self-portrait and then a portrait of a friend. Compare their similarities and differences to identify what makes each person special and individual.

Discuss this as a class group.

Research animals that live in a savannah and/or jungle.

Ask the class to suggest and provide reasons why they believe certain animals would be good companions for each other.

Create a class storybook of Savannah/ Jungle Friends. Include details of where each animal lives, what they eat, how long they normally live for, etc.