



# Warm at the zoo

Creature feature program

Updated 09/2012

## MATERIALS NEEDED

- Puppets (suggested but can really use any animal that has a unique way of staying warm at the zoo):
  - Bear
  - Tapir
  - Visayan warty pig
  - Orangutan
  - Flamingo
  - Snake
- Animal encounter materials
  - Mystery box
  - Magic soap
  - Animal
  - Wipes/trash bags for animal waste

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls – it’s just about time for this morning’s Creature Feature. If you’d like to join me for a puppet story and a live zoo animal, please have a seat around the tan carpet in front of the stage.

## STORY WRITE-UP

Our story this morning stars my friend here. What kind of animal is he? That’s right – he’s a bear! Now bear woke up this morning and gave a great big bear stretch. **Have kids stretch like bear.** He stretched his furry bear legs up to the sky and stretched his furry bear legs down to the ground and then bear let out a great, big bear yawn. **Have kids yawn like bear.**

Now, it was a cold morning just like this one but bear wasn’t cold at all! How do bears stay warm? That’s right! Bears have thick, thick, thick fur to keep them warm. So bear decided to go outside for a walk, keeping nice and warm with his big thick coat.

FIRST ENCOUNTER: ENTER FLAMINGO...

As bear was walking along, he saw a pink bird with loooong legs. What kind of animal is this? That’s right – a flamingo! Well, bear walked up to flamingo and said “Flamingo! Isn’t it great having thick fur to keep us warm on this cold day?” Well, flamingo was a little confused. Why do you think flamingo was confused? That’s right! Flamingo doesn’t have any fur. Does anyone know how a flamingo keeps warm? That’s right! Flamingos pull one leg into their bodies to keep

that leg nice and warm and then switch to keep the other leg warm, too. **Have kids practice standing on one leg. Have bear practice standing on one leg too.**

SECOND ENCOUNTER: ENTER ORANGUTAN

Similar exchange to above but orangutan wraps himself in the burlap sacks or blankets keepers give him.

THIRD ENCOUNTER: ENTER VISAYAN WARTY PIG

Similar exchange to above but pig buries herself under the hay with her family to stay warm.

FOURTH ENCOUNTER: ENTER TAPIR (OR JAGUAR, HIPPO, OR ANY ANIMAL WITH HEATED ROCK)

Similar exchange to above but tapir has a secret – one of the rocks in her exhibit is heated to keep her warm and toasty in cold weather. Bears goes home to warm up in his den on his heated rock and takes a long winter nap. THE END.

## **Animal Encounter**

Presenter: I have a special surprise for all of you, I have a real animal friend inside of this box that would like to come out and meet all of you. Would you like to meet him? \_\_\_\_\_ will bring the animal out so you can see up close. My animal friend is a little bit shy, so let's all stay seated on our bottoms and be good listeners and look with our eyes only for now, ok?

Helper: collect puppets/supplies and help bring out animal and magic soap from Mystery Box.

Live Animal:

Presenter: Let's all look at this animal. What do you see? Any ideas what kind of animal this is? What color is he? How many legs does he have? Do you see his tail? (take out of tank) Whatever questions are appropriate for the animal that is being used.

Touch Opportunity: Rules...

Presenter: Who would like a chance to touch our animal friend? (give rules for touch opportunity)

Helper: Sit next to presenter on Stage with Magic Soap.

Presenter: I'm going to encourage parents and guardians to help our youngsters in touching the animal (either form line (choo-choo train or snake) for larger groups, or come to them for smaller groups, assistant follows with soap). What does it feel like?

Closing:/Presenter: Thank you very much for coming to our Creature Feature Today. Join us every morning at 10:30 for a puppet story and a live zoo animal. Stay tuned for Shake, Rattle & Roar coming up at 11:30.