



## **November Home/School Links (Literacy)**

### **Theme: Wild Animals**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Class**

#### **Wild Animals**

Your child will explore the theme 'Wild Animals' at school this month using posters, stories, fiction and non-fiction books, games, drama, poetry and ICT. The children will learn about and research wild animals such as lions, giraffes, elephants and hippopotamuses.

Encourage the extension of this theme by asking your child to research endangered species. Borrow books from the library or read information with your child on websites such as National Geographic Kids.

#### **Reading**

Talk with your child about what s/he is reading. Ask about new words. Talk about what is happening in the story. Ask about the characters, places and events. If your child is reading a non-fiction book, ask what new information s/he has learned from it.

You can help your child read with understanding by showing him/her how to use strategies that will aid comprehension. One such strategy is called Visualisation. This is the ability to create mental pictures of characters, settings and scenes. When children are taught to create mental images as they read, they experience greater recall and their ability to make predictions and inferences is also enhanced.

Encourage your child to create a picture in his/her mind of what is happening in the story. Ask questions such as:

- Can you imagine the scene as if were a film/movie playing in your head?
- Are you able to think of any other knowledge or something that you have learned already to help you understand this better?
- How do the pictures in the book compare with the pictures in your head?

Encourage your child to predict, visualise, question and make connections as s/he reads.