

bennett *live*

FOR PARENTS & EDUCATORS

Creative Play

WITH MRS. CUNNINGHAM

Learning Guide - Week 3

CREATED BY:

 bennett labs





Bennett Live offers engaging media programming with a mission to inspire young designers, creators, and makers through project-based learning.

- Live and pre-recorded programming for ages 3-12
- Daily, Monday-Friday at 11 am and 2 pm (CST) on [Bennett Day School's Facebook page](#)
- Weekly episodes are archived on [Bennett Day School's YouTube Channel](#)
- Inspired by the principles of Reggio Emilia and Project-Based Learning (PBL)

Designed to advance a child's creativity and their development as lifelong learners and leaders, Bennett Live is a Bennett Labs creation for children and families everywhere.

- To learn more visit: bennettday.org/bennettlive
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Creative Play

WITH MRS. CUNNINGHAM

WEEKLY SCHEDULE | WEEK 3

Let's Explore and Create Animal Habitats!

This week we will explore and create the habitats of some wonderful animals, discuss the different types across the globe and what each needs to live, and thrive in.

MON

The home of the sea turtle. We will explore the word habitat, wonder how each are different for each animal across the globe, and create our first habitat of a sea turtle.

TUES

Where penguins live! We will explore the colder habitats of Antarctica, the home of the Penguin, and create a habitat in Antarctica together.

WED

Tigers in the Jungle! We will travel to Asia, one of the homes of the Tiger, to talk about what they need to live and create a habitat of a tiger together.

THURS

The home of Australian snakes! We're going down under! We'll explore the habitats of Australian snakes, and work on creating one of our own.

FRI

High in the sky! We will explore habitats high in the sky in the trees, why birds find trees to be their perfect home, and create a forest-tree habitat from many loose parts.

TIPS

A habitat is an area with a specific climate and ecosystem. Desert, forest, grassland, wetlands, and tundra are the main habitats found around the world. Each habitat has a unique landscape and wildlife. During this week, we will explore the world of habitats through the lens of different animals. We invite you to use a map or globe to show your child where in the world we are today, and whose habitats we are creating for them to live and thrive in.





Creative Play

WITH MRS. CUNNINGHAM

Week 3

The World of Animal Habitats!

CREATIVE PLAY

Creative Play with Mrs. Cunningham is a Reggio inspired creative and play-based exploration program for PreK to Grade 1 (Ages 3-6), where students can explore ideas and investigate the world they live in. Each day, Mrs. Cunningham inspires curiosity through home-based provocations and creative play, inspiring students to explore and develop their creative thinking. Children can join Mrs. Cunningham on a daily journey of creativity, stories, and play.

MRS. CUNNINGHAM

For the past decade, Mrs. Cunningham has enjoyed being an educator in Early Childhood classrooms in the Chicagoland area, actively participating in the exploration and growth of many young children. Clare completed her undergraduate at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana, with a Bachelor's in Elementary Education. After spending some time in the classroom, she went back to study Child Development, receiving her Master's Degree from Erikson Institute in 2017. While teaching, Clare has always valued the importance of nurturing a child's innate curiosity in the early stages of their developmental learning.

A CREATIVE PLAY & COZY CORNER

- Create a little cozy nook for your child to create, play, and learn in.
- Choose a quiet place and add a small table and bookshelf with books in easy reach to read from.
- Include craft supplies such as pencils, washable markers, paints, paper (white and colored), glue stick, crayons, and a pair of blunt tip scissors.
- Arrange stuffed animals, card games, coloring books, small toys, and a pillow or two.
- Include a small box for rubbish and another to store stuff from around the house that they can create with.

MONDAY

The home of the sea turtle. We will explore the word habitat, wonder how each habitat is different for each animal across the globe, and create our first habitat of a sea turtle with ocean water and sand.

Equipment and Supplies

- Green craft foam and/or construction paper
- Plastic containers from applesauce, fruit cups, or yogurt, or an egg carton
- Googly Eyes [optional]
- Craft Paint, Glue, Markers
- Shoebox or cardboard

Tips and Advice

Encourage your child to use their imagination and knowledge of objects that may be added to the habitat. Use green foam craft paper if you'd like the sea turtle to float or go in the water.





TUESDAY

Where Penguins Live! We will explore colder habitats and various animals who thrive in these environments. We'll discuss penguins and create a habitat in Antarctica together!

Equipment and Supplies

- Paper towel or toilet paper roll
- Shaving cream, cotton balls or white spoons
- White & black paper
- Styrofoam
- Paint

Tips and Advice

Challenge each other to "waddle like a penguin"! Add ice to the habitat for an authentic Antarctica experience. Use a white pillow case to set up the habitat and pretend it's snow!

WEDNESDAY

Tigers in the Jungle! We will travel to Asia, one of the homes of the Tiger, talk about what they need to live, and create a habitat of a tiger together.

Equipment and Supplies

- Box or cardboard, and orange pipe cleaners
- Markers and glue
- Greenery: (leaves, construction paper, green felt)
- Water: (blue gems, felt, paint small rocks blue)
- Trees: Paper Towel rolls and green shrubbery (Playdough, etc)

Tips and Advice

Provoke critical thinking by asking how they might use these in their own habitat creation. 1. Cover (dense vegetation) 2. Water (close to a water source) 3. Prey (need access to prey to survive).

THURSDAY

The home of Australian snakes! We're going down under! We'll explore the habitats of Australian snakes, and work on creating one of our own.

Equipment and Supplies

- Cookie sheet or tray
- Construction paper
- Playdough (optional)
- Ideas for the snake: Pipe cleaners and beads or raw rigatoni noodles-paper plates-popsicle sticks

Tips and Advice

Snakes can be found on every continent on Earth, in a variety of habitats, except in Antarctica. Even though snakes can be found all over the world, most live in warm climates.

FRIDAY


High in the Sky! We will explore habitats high in the sky in the trees, why birds find trees to be their perfect home, and create a forest-tree habitat from many loose parts.

Equipment and Supplies

- Glue, markers, and crayons
- Brown paper bag or paper plate, wooden bowl or container for nest
- Sticks, twine, grass, paper scraps or shreds, pulled apart cotton balls, tissue paper, and pom poms (optional)

Tips and Advice

A bird's nest makes a wonderful mantelpiece decoration, and can make use of almost anything you find along a nature hike, or in your front yard.





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