



Zoo Planner

Build an enclosure for each animal and arrange the homes from small to large. Comparing, building, and moving in the residents creates a playful size-and-order challenge.

Helps Your Child Grow

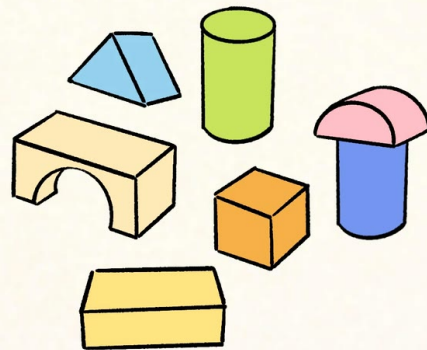


Emergent Mathematical Thinking

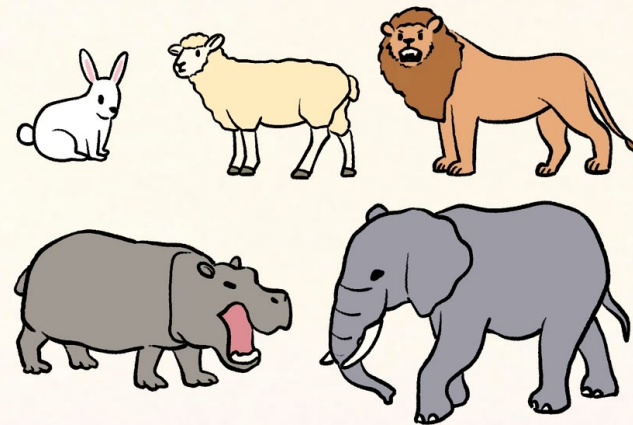
Building homes and assigning them by animal size gives your child practice observing, comparing, ordering, and matching by size.



What You'll Need



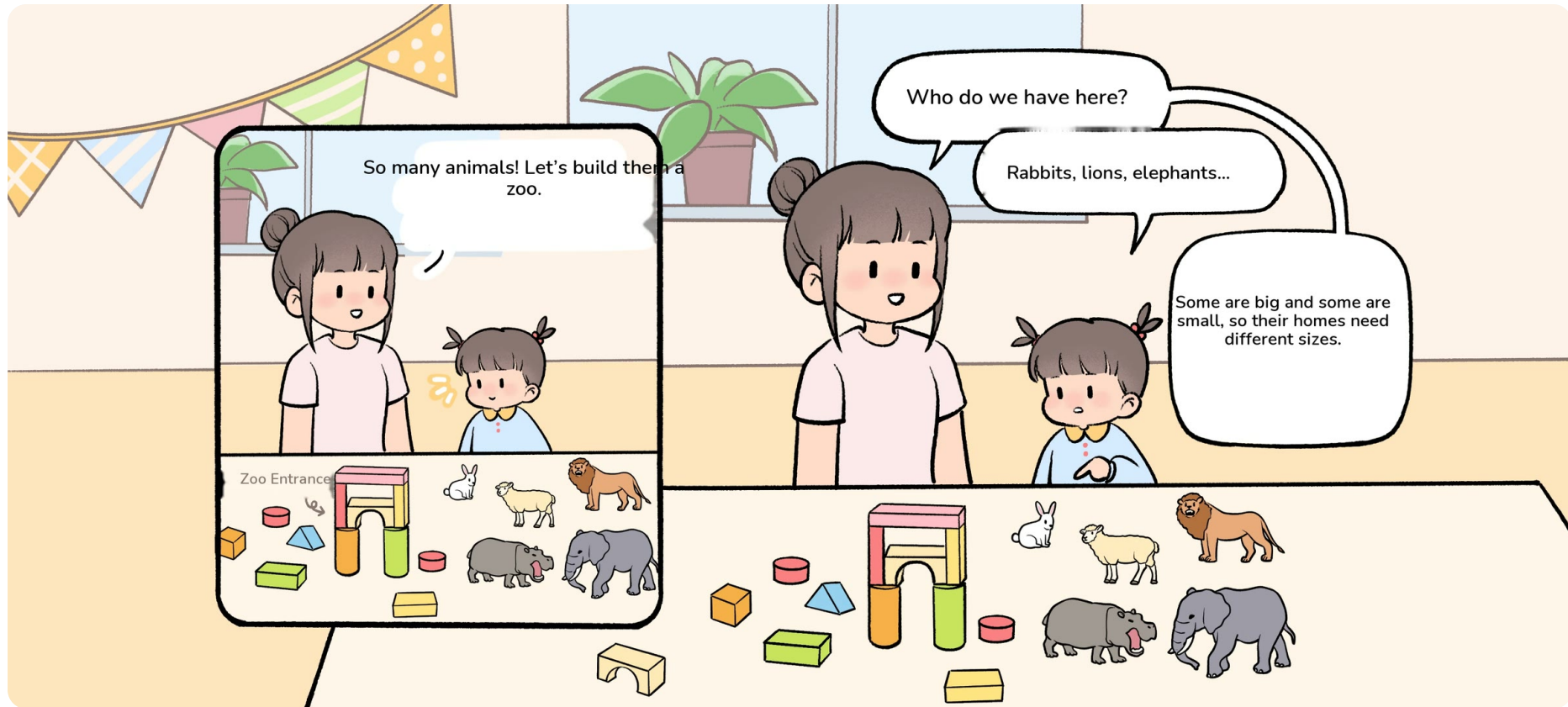
Building
blocks



Animal figures

What You'll Need

1. Building blocks
2. animal figures in several sizes, such as a rabbit, sheep, lion, hippo, and elephant



Plan the Zoo

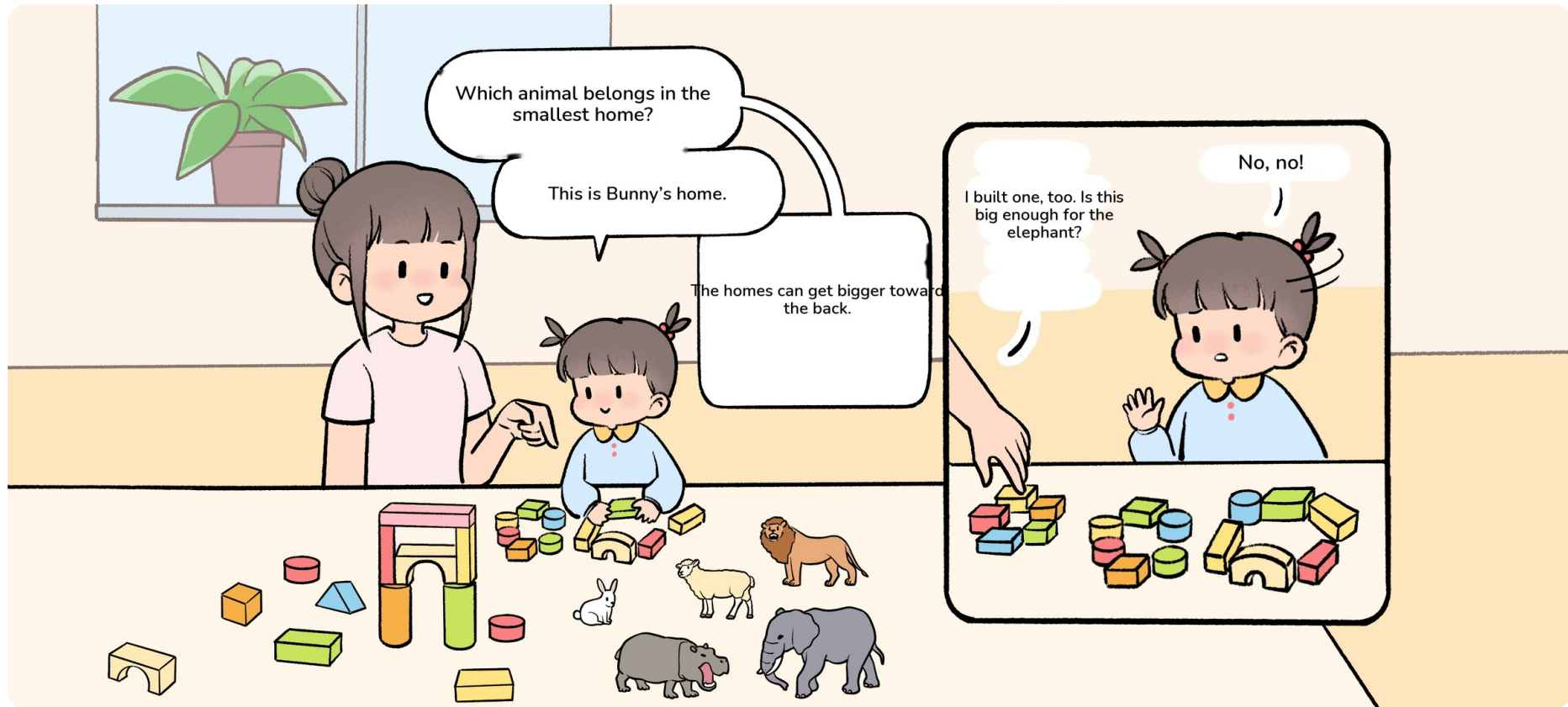
Build an arched zoo entrance to invite your child into the story. Look at all the animals waiting to move in and compare their sizes before you begin building.

Observations

- Names each animal figure
- Pretends the arched blocks are a zoo entrance

Tips

- Connect body size with space: "Will the elephant need a big home? Could Bunny's home be smaller?"



Build Homes That Fit

Invite your child to build an enclosure for each animal. Begin with the smallest home, then make each new one a little larger so the bigger animals have more space.

Observations

- Uses blocks of different shapes to form an enclosure
- Builds a smaller home for a small animal and a larger home for a big animal

Tips

- Make one enclosure obviously too small for the elephant and see whether your child notices the playful mismatch.
- The homes do not need exact measurements. Focus on the visible progression from smaller to larger.



Move Each Animal In

When the homes are ready, ask your child to move the animals in from smallest to largest, matching each one with a home. If two animals look similar in size or one home feels wrong, place the animals side by side or try them in the space.

Observations

- Places two animals together and identifies which is larger
- Judges whether a home fits by looking at how crowded the animal is

Tips

- When every animal has a home, announce, “The zoo is open!”
- If a match is off, invite another judgment instead of giving the answer: “Does Hippo look crowded in this home?”