



Animal Delivery Crew

Lay out a rope path and deliver pretend food while moving like different animals: sidestep like a crab, jump like a rabbit or kangaroo, and crawl like an orangutan.

Helps Your Child Grow



Gross Motor

Walking, jumping, and crawling in different ways gives your child practice coordinating large-muscle movements and balance.



Imitation and Symbolic Representation and Play

Copying how different animals move helps your child notice their features and represent them through whole-body actions.



What You'll Need



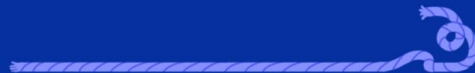
Four small boxes, each labeled with an animal
(bunny, kangaroo, gorilla, crab)



Four food cards (grass, carrot, banana, shrimp)



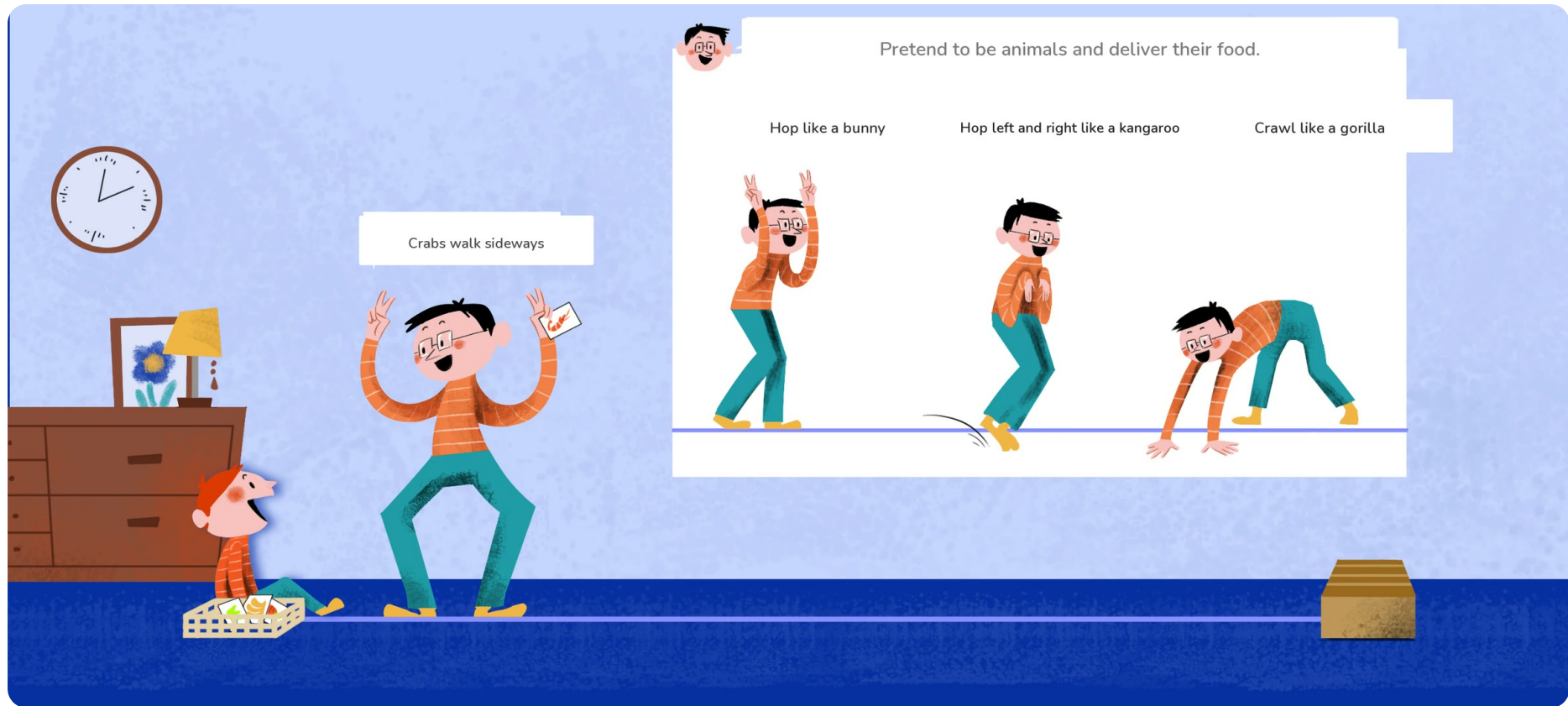
A basket



A 3-ft (1-m) rope

What You'll Need

1. A rope laid on the floor
2. boxes labeled with pictures of a crab, rabbit, kangaroo, and orangutan, lined up at one end
3. baskets holding picture cards of grass, carrots, bananas, and shrimp, placed at the other end



Move Like an Animal

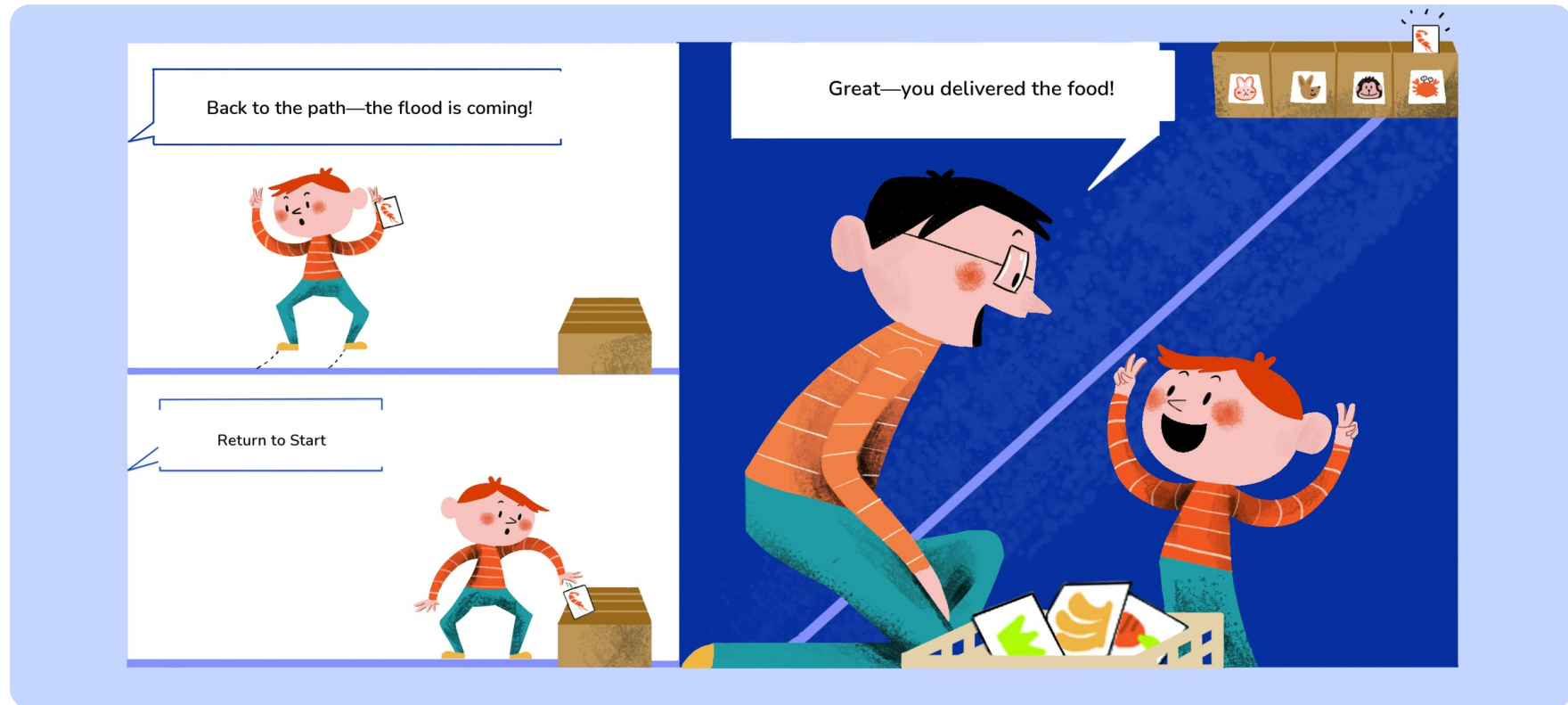
Look at the animals together and talk about what each one likes to eat. Demonstrate by becoming the animals' helper: copy one animal's way of moving and carry its favorite food along the rope path. When your child is eager to join, invite them to choose an animal and join the delivery crew.

Observations

- Copies the way different animals move
- Talks with you about how different animals walk

Tips

- If your child mixes up the crab and rabbit movements, point out a clue: "A rabbit's ears are on top, and a crab's pincers are at its sides. The crab steps sideways along the rope, and the rabbit jumps forward over it."
- Demonstrate each animal movement slowly and with a little exaggeration. To show a crab walk, sway your body and arms from side to side as you step sideways along the rope.



Back to the Path

If your child moves away from the route during a delivery, prompt them in character: “Little Crab, sidestep back to the path.” Then encourage them to keep following the route to finish the delivery.

Observations

- Carries food to animals in different locations
- Keeps imitating an animal's posture while delivering its food

Tips

- When your child returns to the route, encourage them: “The little animal is still waiting. Let’s keep going!”
- Use the pretend scenario instead of giving a direct command. Saying ‘The flood is coming!’ or ‘The tiger is coming!’ can make returning to the path feel like part of the game.
- If the food card is hard to carry in one hand, suggest another approach: hold it under the chin, tuck it under an arm, or hold it gently between the lips.
- If your child forgets the animal movement during the delivery, remind them to return to that animal’s way of walking.



Finish the Food Delivery

If your child forgets how an animal moves, offer a clue with its sound or one gesture. After every animal receives its food, celebrate together so the completed delivery feels visible.

Observations

- Carries food by jumping with both feet or jumping from side to side
- Proudly shows you that all the food was delivered

Tips

- If your child delivers the wrong food, invite them to check the animal and food again. Offer a clue: “The rabbit likes an orange food with green leaves.”
- If your child forgets how another animal moves, make a small part of the motion and ask, “How does the rabbit move?”
- A simple cheer can make the effort feel noticed and strengthen your child’s sense of accomplishment.
- Combine a sound or gesture with a verbal clue. Information from more than one sense can make the movement easier to recall.
- If your child keeps using the same animal movement for the next delivery, prompt them to choose a different way to move.