# My First Day

# A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

- Themes: Animals, Growth and Development, Families
- **Book Brief:** How do newborn animals spend their first day on the planet? Read to find out!

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# TIME TO READ!

Before reading, build background: Tell your child about the day they were born, or about a different first day you've shared together.

While reading, make connections: Has your child ever seen a baby animal? What about a baby human?

Which one needed more help from its parents?

#### After reading, ask questions:

- Which baby animal needed the most help from its parents?
- Which animal needed the least help?
- How did the parents help?
- Which animals live near you?

## **RELATED ACTIVITIES**

#### A FROG IN YOUR THROAT

Ingredients: green apple, green grapes, toothpicks

Cut a green apple into thick wedges. Cut a thin slice lengthwise into the peel of one apple wedge to make the frog's mouth. Lay the wedge flat on its side. Cut a grape in half widthwise. Using toothpicks, attach the grape halves to the flat top of the wedge to make the frog's eyes. Yum!

## **CUT-PAPER CRITTERS**

Materials: construction paper, white paper, scissors, glue, crayons or markers

The illustrations in this book are cut-paper. Make your own cut-paper picture! Cut out pieces of construction paper and glue them onto white paper in the shape of an animal. Use more paper to give your animal a face. Color in the background with crayons or markers.

## A ZEBRA BY ITS STRIPES

Materials: paper, paint, pencil, popsicle sticks, scissors

A mother zebra can recognize her baby by its stripes. Make a zebra with its own unique pattern! Draw or trace the outline of a zebra on paper. Dip one long, skinny edge of the popsicle stick in paint and press it onto the zebra to make a stripe. Repeat. Use different colors, if desired. Cut out your zebra.

## TECHNOLOGY LINK

Watch this video about an otter mom who finds a creative way to take care of her pup: **www.youtube. com/watch?v=oOOyhHeelyo**.

# **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

#### OTHER BOOKS BY THESE AUTHORS

Sisters and Brothers (2012) Time to Sleep (2011) What Do You Do with a Tail like This? (2008)

