

# Baby on Board Kangaroo Pouch Craft

## Materials:

- Card stock, thick paper or craft foam
- Craft stick
- Crayons or paint
- Glue
- 9 oz. paper party cups
- Scissors

## Instructions:

1. Print this pattern or draw your own artwork.
2. Color or paint your art

pieces, then cut them out.

3. If your craft stick is too long cut it to the size you prefer.

4. Assemble your pieces according to the example.

Use the cup for coins, candy, collectables or a plant.

Have fun!



**Baby On Board**

by Marianne Berkes

<http://www.marianneberkes.com/>

illustrated by Cathy Morrison

<http://cathymorrison.blogspot.com/>

published by Dawn Publications

<https://dawnpub.com/>

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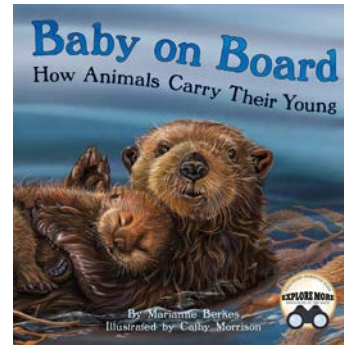
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# Match Game

Reproduced from page 29 of *Baby on Board: How Animals Carry Their Young*, by Marianne Berkes



## EXPLORE MORE — For Kids

### Match Game:

Match the name of the animal to the description of how the parent carries its baby.



1. Kangaroo

A. I prepare a new sleeping nest for my baby every night.



2. Sea Otter

B. We paddle together in the warm water along the coast.



3. Sloth

C. My chick climbs on my back for safety and to keep warm.



4. Opossum

D. My baby clings onto my hair as we move very slowly.



5. Manatee

E. I wrap my pup in kelp seaweed before I hunt for food.



6. Chimpanzee

F. When my eggs hatch, hundreds of babies climb on my back.



7. Common Loon

G. I carry my litter of joeys on my back going from place to place.



8. Alligator

H. I warm the egg that my mate has laid on my feet.



9. Wolf Spider

I. When I hunt for prey, I hide my cubs in dense bushes for safety.



10. Emperor Penguin

J. My pup blends in with my fur while I dig up insects.



11. Anteater

K. My joey is safely tucked in my pouch when I hop.



12. Lion

L. I hurry back to the nest when my hatchlings vocalize.

# Baby on Board Penguin Footprint

## Materials:

Paper

Black, white, and orange paint

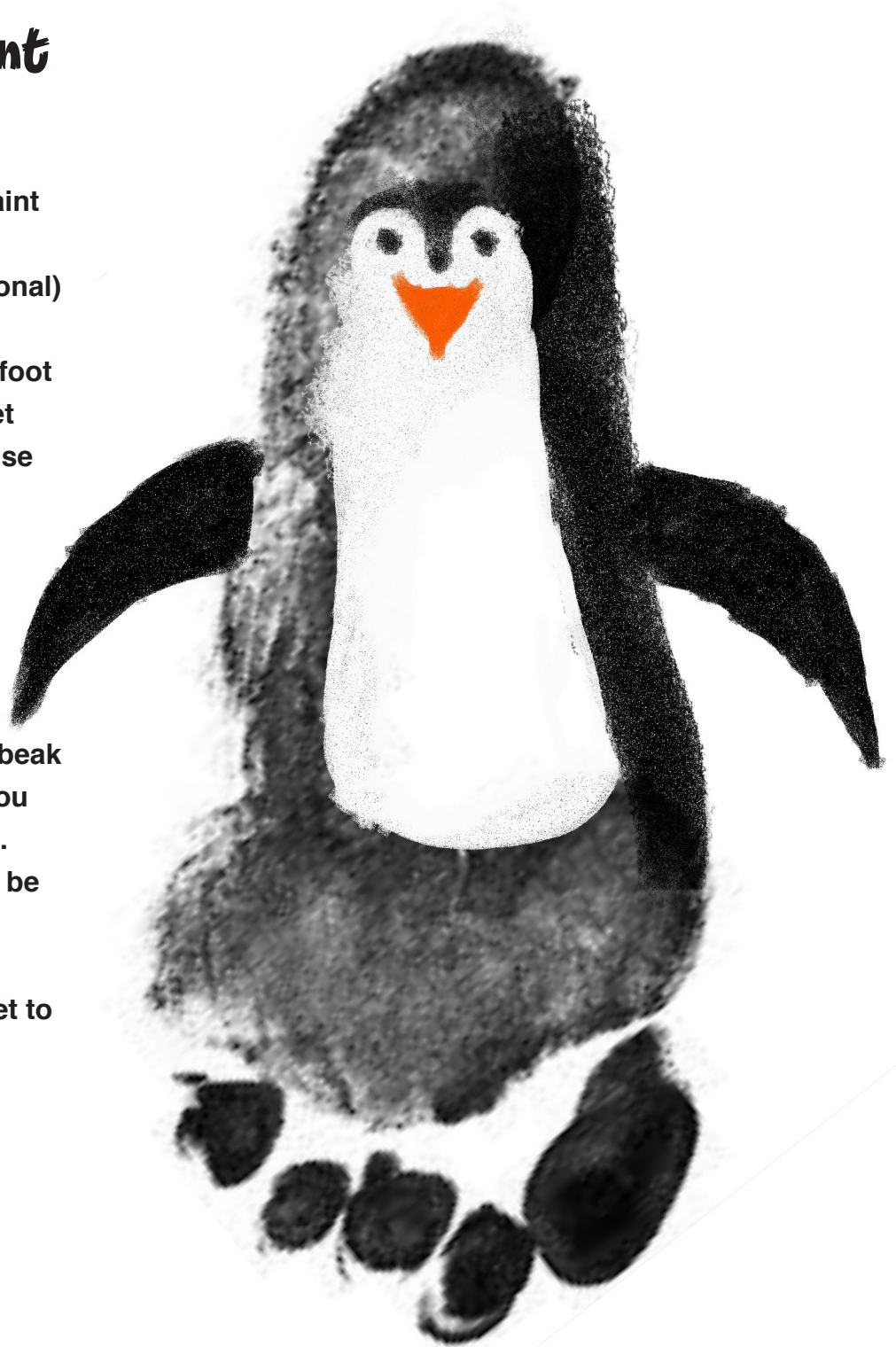
Paint brush

Glue and googly eyes (optional)

## Instructions:

1. Paint the bottom of your foot and stamp it onto paper. Get help from a grownup because this gets messy.
2. Using black paint, paint the rest of your penguin's shape and wings.
3. Paint the inside penguin body using white paint
4. Use orange paint for the beak
5. Paint the eyes black or you could also use googly eyes. Glue on a pair which would be super cute.

Add friends and family's feet to make a penguin colony.



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## Playing with Poetry

### Introduction

The book *Baby on Board: How Animals Carry Their Young* introduces students to different ways animal parents carry their young. In this activity, students write a haiku poem about one of the animals. (Grades 1-3)

### Materials

- The book *Baby on Board*
- Reproducible bookmarks—1 per child, free download [www.dawnpub.com/activities](http://www.dawnpub.com/activities)



### Procedure

1. Read aloud *Baby on Board*. Have students notice the difference between the rhyming verses and the information at the bottom of the page.
2. Give each child a bookmark and have students pair up with a partner who has the same animal. Tell them that they will work together to use the facts from the book to write a special kind of poem about their animal called a haiku.
3. Explain haiku poetry by telling children that it's a kind of poem from Japan and has been around for many centuries. The poem has three lines of 17 syllables. (The first line has 5 syllables, the second line has 7 syllables, and the third line has 5 syllables.)
4. Using the haiku below as an example, have pairs work together to identify the syllables.

Sloths are very slow.  
They sleep upside-down in trees.  
That is where they live.

5. Have pairs of students share their haikus, following the order of animals as they're introduced in the book.

*Variation:* Students may choose to write their haiku without including the animal's name in the verse. Then when they read it aloud, other students can guess what animal the haiku is describing.

### Standards Alignment

#### Next Generation Science Standards (DCI: K-2)

##### Life Science

- (A) Structures and Processes
- (B) Growth and Development of Organisms
- (C) Information Processing

##### LS3: Heredity:

- (A) Inheritance of Traits

#### Common Core ELA (K-2)

##### Reading: Literature

##### Range of Reading and Level of Text:

K.1, 1.1, 2.1, 3.1



**BABY ON BOARD**  
**HOW ANIMALS CARRY THEIR YOUNG**

**Readers' Theater**

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

**NARRATOR**

**KANGAROO**

**SEA OTTER**

**SLOTH**

**OPOSSUM**

**MANATEE**

**CHIMPANZEE**

**COMMON LOON**

**ALLIGATOR**

**WOLF SPIDER**

**EMPEROR PENGUIN**

**ANTEATER**

**LION**



## THE SCRIPT

2

**NARRATOR:** When you were a baby, someone carried you.  
Have you ever wondered what animal parents do?

There are no baby backpacks, no wraps or straps or slings,  
No seats to buckle kids in, or many other things.

**KANGAROO:**

This mother baby carrier is one that is well-known.  
Her joey lives inside her pouch until he's nearly grown.

**NARRATOR:**

At birth, the baby, called a joey, is guided safely into a pouch where  
it is protected while it nurses.

**SEA OTTER:**

This mom is like a living raft as she transports her pup.  
She hunts for food for both of them and never will give up.

**NARRATOR:**

Before she goes out to hunt for food, a mother sea otter wraps her  
baby in long strands of kelp seaweed to keep her pup from drifting  
away.

**SLOTH:**

Baby clings on mama's hair. They slowly move with ease.  
They sleep while hanging upside down from branches in the trees.

**NARRATOR:**

As soon as it is born, the baby sloth clutches its mother's hairy belly  
with its long claws and stays really close for almost a year.



**OPOSSUM:**

3

This animal hauls her babies from one place to another. The joeys have it easy as they all ride on their mother.

**NARRATOR:**

The opossum mother spends a lot of time and energy carrying her litter of joeys from one home to another.

**MANATEE:**

They paddle very slowly as they swim along the coast, but nestled under mama's fin, this baby likes it most.

**NARRATOR:**

A baby manatee, called a calf, can swim within minutes after birth. But it remains close to its mother, nursing behind the mother's flipper.

**CHIMPANZEE:**

This mother carries baby right upon her chest. At evening she will place it in a "sleeping" nest.

**NARRATOR:**

A mother chimp carries her baby in the crook of her arm close to her chest during the day. Each night she prepares a new sleeping nest for her baby.

**COMMON LOON:**

This baby's downy feathers hold body heat inside. It climbs on top of papa's back, and they go for a ride.

**NARRATOR:**

Both common loon parents care for their young, usually one or two. Carrying them on their backs keeps chicks safe from fish and turtle predators and also keeps them warm.



**ALLIGATOR**

When babies call their mother, there is no time to pause. She carries them to safety, gripped in her powerful jaws.

**NARRATOR:**

Alligator hatchlings vocalize, which attracts their mother back to the nest. She gently lifts them out, a few at a time, and carries them to the water for safety.

**WOLF SPIDER:**

This baby carrier mother aggressively keeps track as hundreds of her spiderlings climb right onto her back.

**NARRATOR:**

Spiderlings crowd onto their mother's back as soon as they are hatched. Most people do not recognize them as baby spiders until they move out from the tightly packed group.

**EMPEROR PENGUIN:**

The mother lays a single egg. Then she goes out to sea. The father warms it on his feet. How can this really be?

**NARRATOR:**

In the bitter cold of Antarctica, the female emperor penguin lays an egg. Then the male keeps it warm by balancing it on his feet under a flap of skin until the chick hatches.

**ANTEATER:**

Blending in with mama's fur, you hardly see this pup. It rides upon her hairy back while she digs insects up.

**NARRATOR:**

Mama anteater collects ants and termites with her long sticky tongue. The pattern on her pup's fur helps camouflage it from predators.

**LION:**

The female hides her little cubs before she hunts for prey. When she comes back, she picks them up if they have gone astray.

**NARRATOR:**

The mother, called a lioness, hides her young cubs in dense bushes for safety before going out to hunt for prey.

**ALL**

Tucked in pouches. Gripped in teeth.

Propped on backs—or underneath.

This is what some animals do.

How did someone carry you?

msb-4/20/17

# Baby on Board

## Sea Otter Craft

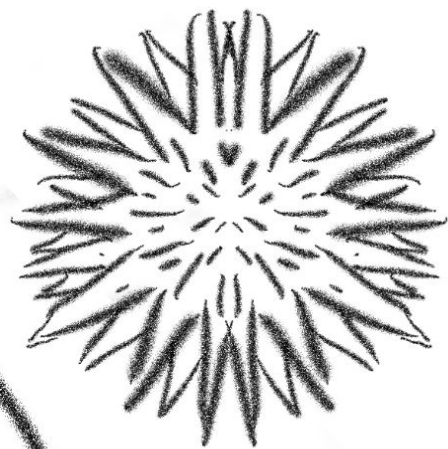
### Materials:

- Craft foam
- Scissors
- Water proof markers or crayons
- Velcro dots or double stick tape

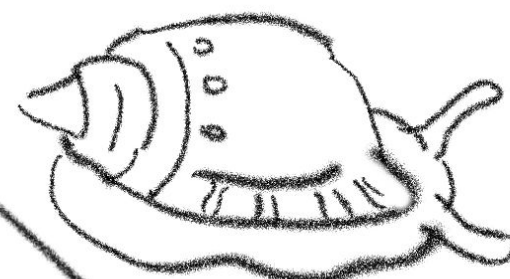
### Instructions:

1. Trace mom and baby otter (favorite foods optional) onto the craft foam. Or draw your own.
2. Cut out the pieces.
3. Place baby on top of mom.
4. Fold mom's hands together and fasten using the velcro dots or tape.
5. Enjoy your otter family floating in your kitchen sink, bath tub, or ocean.

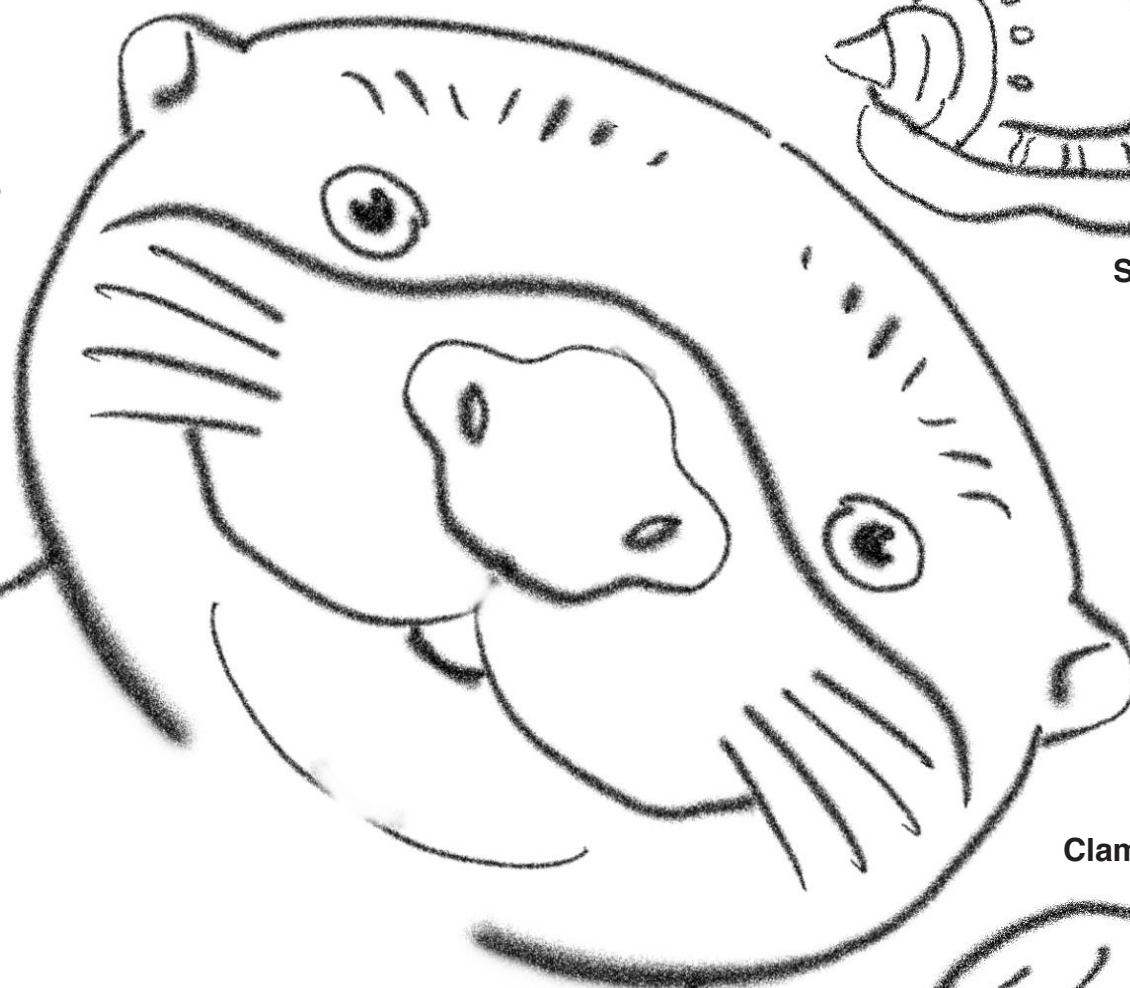
You can also use paper instead of the craft foam. It won't work in water, but is still a lot of fun to make and play with. Create a story for your new otter family.



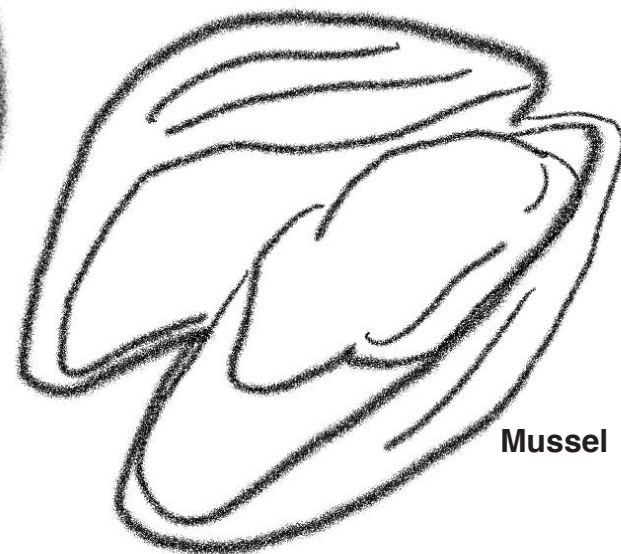
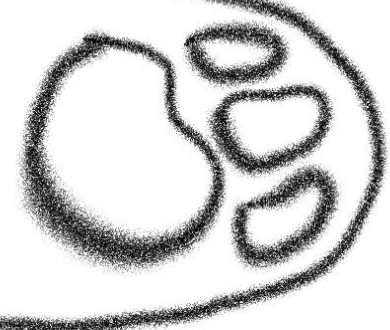
Sea urchin



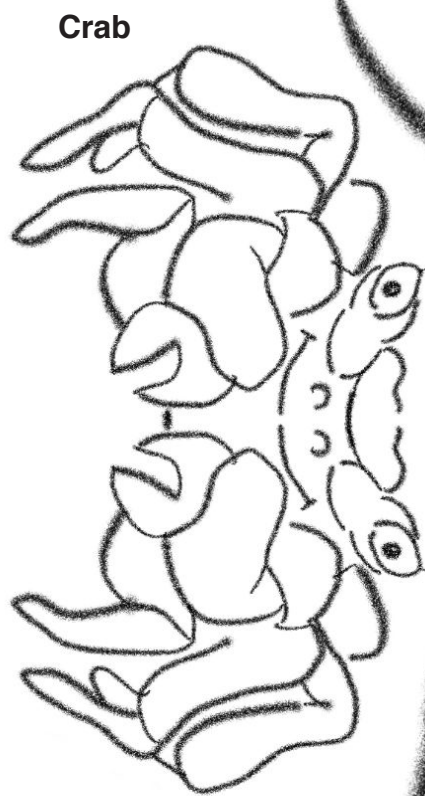
Snail



Clam



Mussel



Crab



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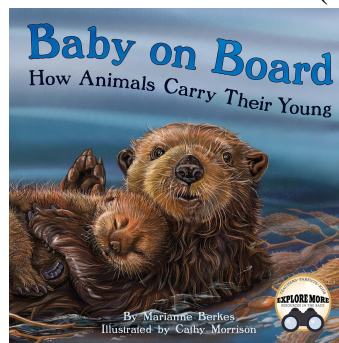
## ***Where in the World***

### **Introduction**

The book *Baby on Board: How Animals Carry Their Young* introduces students to different ways animals parents carry their young. In this activity, students do close listening or reading to find out where each animal lives as well as information about its environment. (Grades 1-3)

### **Materials**

- The book *Baby on Board*
- Reproducible bookmarks—1 per child. Free download from [www.dawnpub.com/activities](http://www.dawnpub.com/activities)
- Globe or world map
- Sticky notes—12, one for each animal



### **Procedure**

1. Download the reproducible bookmarks of the 12 animals in the story. Write the name of each animal on a sticky note.
2. Read *Baby on Board* up to the “Explore More” section.
3. Give each child a bookmark.
4. Read aloud information about an animal in the “Explore More for Teachers and Parents” section. Ask children to listen closely to find out where their animal lives.
5. Using a globe or a map, have children come up to the front of the class to show the rest of the class *where* their animal lives by placing the sticky note with the animal’s name on the location. For example, the kangaroo lives in Australia and Tasmania.
6. Refer to the illustrations in the book and ask children to describe something about *how* the animal lives in its environment. For example, the sea otter floats on its back in the ocean.
7. Once all the animals have been located and discussed, have children notice that the animals live all around the world.

*Variation:* Older children may read the information for themselves. Then they may write the name of the animal on the back of their bookmark, including some additional information about the animal or its environment.

### **Standards Alignment**

#### **Next Generation Science Standards (DCI: K-2)**

Life Science

*LS1: From Molecules to Organisms:*

(B) Growth and Development of Organisms

Earth and Space Science

*ESS3: Earth and Human Activity*

(A) Natural Resources

#### **Common Core ELA (K-2)**

Reading: Informational Text

*Integration of knowledge and Ideas:*

K.7, 1.7, 2.7, 3.7

# Where's My Baby?

In the book, *Baby on Board, How Animal Parents Carry Their Young*, the reader is introduced to twelve animal parents who carry their babies. In this activity, students play a game, matching each parent to each baby.

## Materials Needed

- A copy of the book
- Animal patterns of both parents and babies
- Strips of construction or heavy paper for kids to wear as headbands
- 4" x 6" Index cards

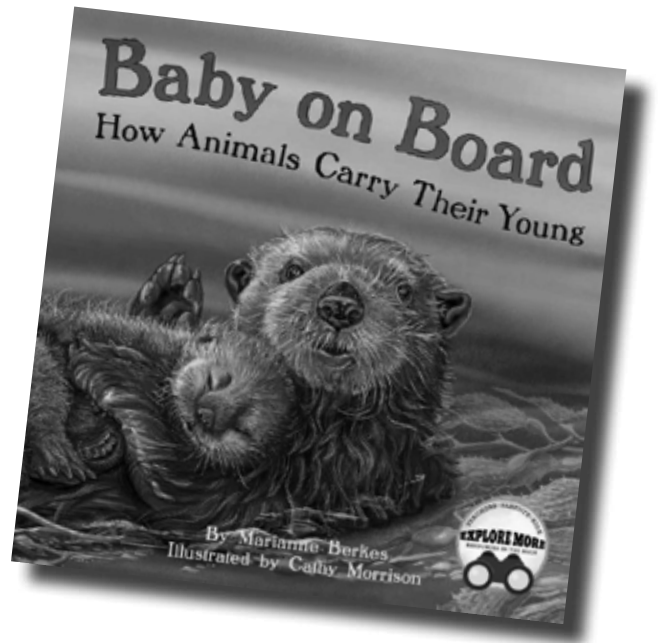
## Next Generation Science Standards, K-2

### Life Science

LS1A: Structure and Function

LS1B: Growth and Development of Organisms

LS3A: Inheritance of Traits

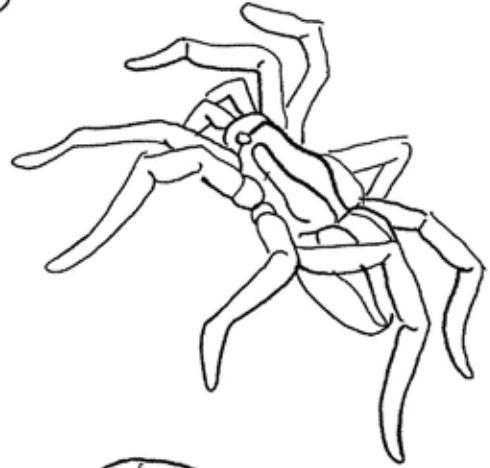
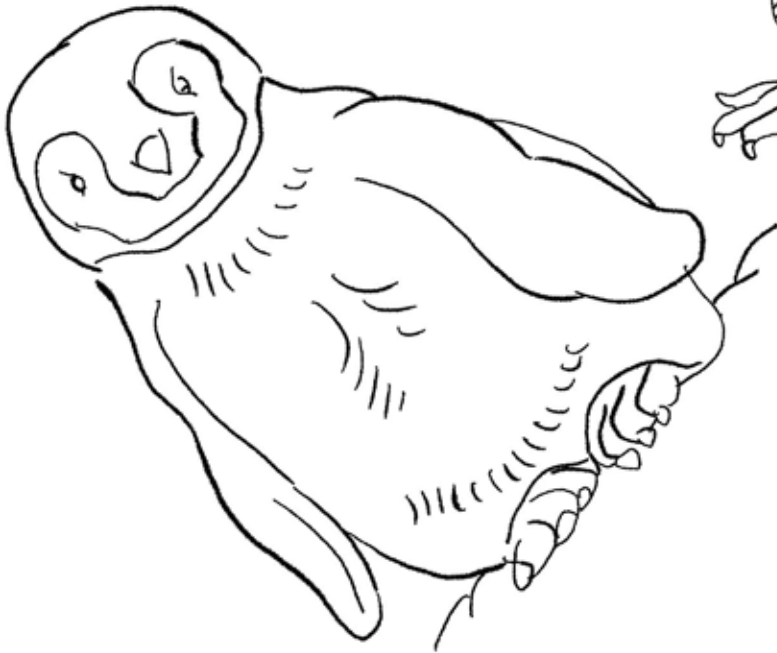


## Procedure

1. Copy, cut, and color the babies. Paste them onto the index cards. Underneath put the name of the baby. They are joey, pup, sloth, joey, calf, chimp, chick, hatchling, spiderling, chick, pup and cub.
2. Copy the twelve parent patterns for students to cut, color, and paste onto headbands. You will need 24 headbands, 2 copies of each animal parent.
3. Read the book, noting the different names of the baby animals.
4. Pass out materials to make headbands. You will have two of each animal if there are 24 children in your class. Make more if necessary.
5. When project is complete, place headbands on twelve of the students--one for each animal parent, and ask them to line up on one side of the room. They should line up in the order of the "parents" in the book, beginning with the kangaroo.
6. Ask twelve other students to line up on the other side of the room (without their headbands). Give them each an index card and tell them not to show the picture side, i.e. they are showing a blank index card. They should not line up in order.
7. The first "parent" tries to find his/her baby by choosing one of the children holding an index card. If it is the right "baby", they both sit down. If it is not, the baby stays there with the name now turned around for everyone to see.
8. The next animal parent has a turn to pick one of the index cards. (It could be the one that now can be seen, or the parent can try another one.)
9. When all the parents have found their babies, play the game again (or on another day) and this time the other students get a turn to be the parents and wear their headbands.

Babies from  
*Baby On Board*

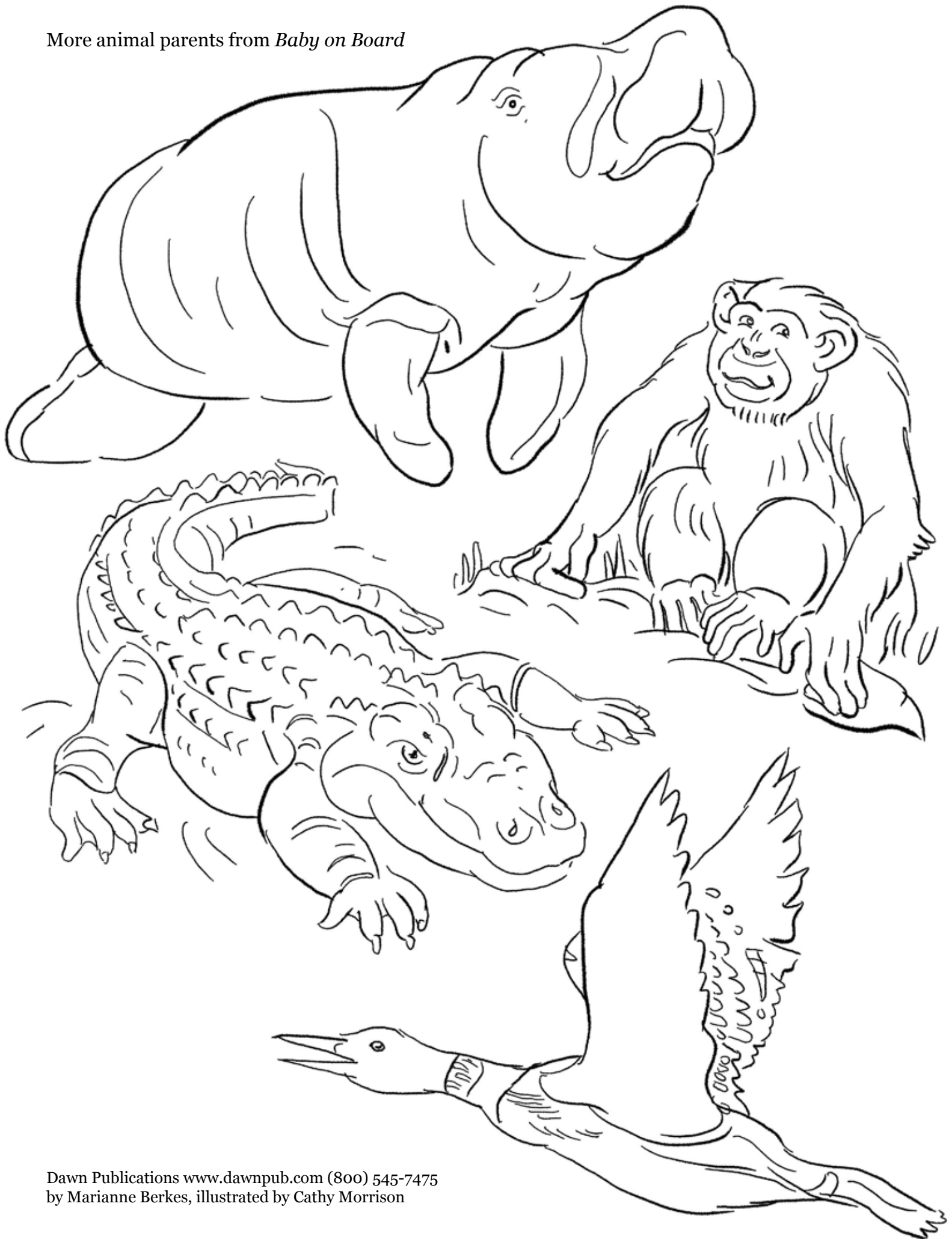






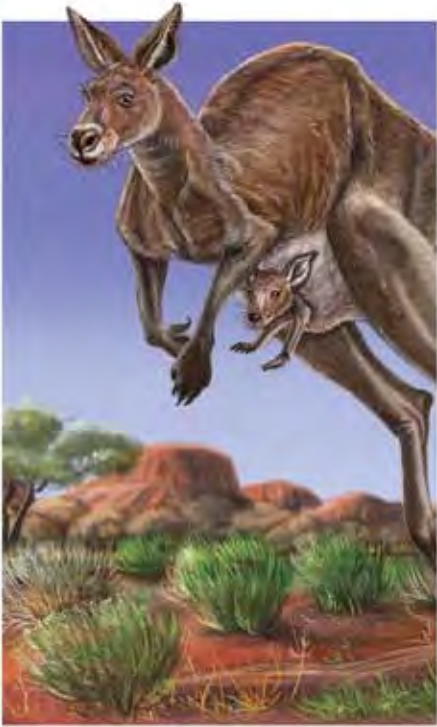


More animal parents from *Baby on Board*



And still more animal parents  
from *Baby on Board*





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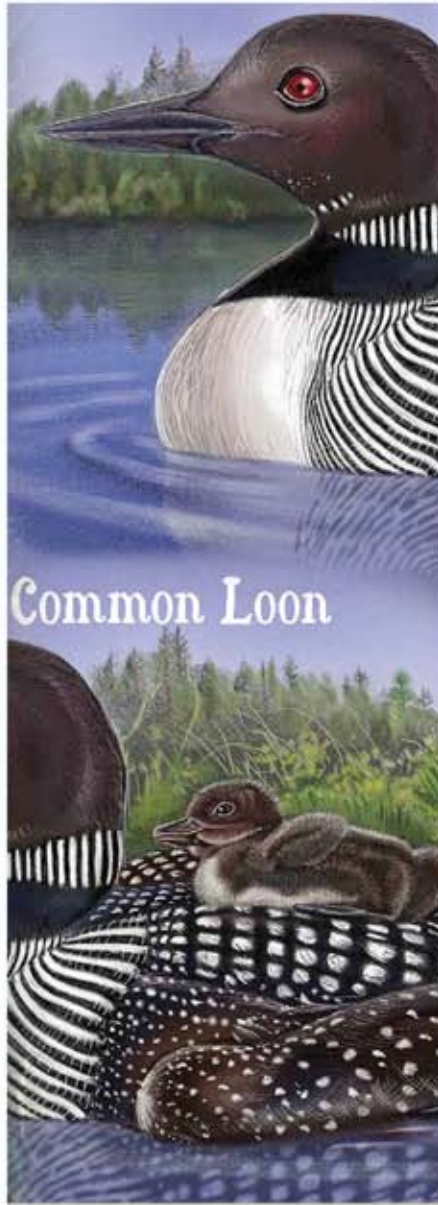


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