## Winter, 2022—Animal Superheroes

### Season Overview-In Person

### Lesson of the Week

### **Lesson Description**

### **Special Content**

### **Materials for Class**

<u>Preseason</u>

We All Plav

Jumping off from the book, We All Play by Julie Flett, we introduce our Animal Superheroes theme and a series of fun at-home activities and resources to celebrate outdoor play and winter. We are so excited for this most special season!

Humans, like other animals, learn and connect through outdoor play!

Video Read Aloud We All Play by Julie Flett

Preseason Page Visit our Preseason page, full of activities and resources for the whole family.

Before live sessions begin, there is plenty to enjoy, including at-home activities and a video read-aloud for kids. Plus. vou'll find a winter gear guide and other articles and videos for grown ups to help you access all this season has to offer. Visit our Preseason page to see it all!



Our Winter Classroom

In our first live sessions together, we will get to know our classroom and one another as we play like squirrels. Just like these amazing creatures, we will use our sense of smell and clues to gather and explore cached objects we'll use to play all winter lona!

We have everything we need to play and learn outside in winter!

### Video Read Aloud

The Sauirrel's Busy Year by Martin Jenkins

**Featured Creature**: Sauirrel

- Water bottle
- A favorite nature treasure\*
- Seasonal layers



Frozen **Friends** 

In honor of a most persistent frigid creature, Ice Worm, we will explore frozen treasures. We'll free pretend worms and other objects from their frozen "homes" and experiment with freezing and melting as we excavate for objects locked inside frozen treasures.

We can persist when we stick with it and try new things.

### Video Read Aloud

Glacier on the Move by Elizabeth Rusch and Alice Brereton

**Featured Creature** Ice Worm

- Water bottle
- Seasonal layers

### \*nature treasure (noun)

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Like the super Alaskan Husky, today we haul heavy things and experiment with how different tools do or don't help to make the process easier—first with the parts of our own bodies, then using other tools like the tarp or "dog sleds" made from various materials.

Video Read Aloud Lone Wolf by Sarah Kurpiel

**Featured Creature** Alaskan Husky

- Water bottle
- Seasonal lavers
- Blanket or bed sheet

We learn to persist—and even surprise ourselves—when we take on challenges.



This week, we get to play like woodpeckers, using mallets and golf tees to peck our way into the winter world around us and through various materials. Like the work of our persistent friend the woodpecker, today is all about the power of repetition.

When we repeat things we improve and innovate!

Video Read Aloud

Manjhi Moves a Mountain by Nancy Churnin and Danny Popovici

Featured Creature Woodpecker

- Water bottle
- Seasonal layers
- (Optional) cardboard box



Just as our hard working friends the spiders work hard to create and build with their silk, we welcome children to explore how many different ways they can play and create with their pretend "silk" (i.e. colorful yarn) and the nature treasures ground them.

Video Read Aloud

Rainbow Weaver by Linda Elovitz Marshall

**Featured Creature**Orb Weaver Spider

- Water bottle
- Seasonal layers

Keep trying new things. Flexibility is an important part of persistence.



Building Up Just like the super-builder Beaver, we will use what we have around us to build, and then if we want, knock down. This week we'll explore the joy and the challenges of building up and the two sides of toppling towers.

Video Read Aloud

I Am Done by Gretchen Brandenburg McLellan

**Featured Creature** Beaver

- Water bottle
- Cardboard box (small to medium size)
- Seasonal layers

How to respond when our tower topples may be the most important building lesson of all.

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### **Materials for Class**



This week, we will experiment with sound, testing our ability to be as quiet as a Snowy Owl on the hunt and noisy as a Snowy Owl who is looking for a friend. We'll enjoy a listening walk and the chance to make all kinds of sounds!

Video Read Aloud Ouiet by Deborah Underwood

**Featured Creature** Snowy Owl

Water bottle

- Seasonal Lavers
- Container with a lid (e.g. yogurt container, oatmeal container, tupperware)
- Metal spoon or other utensil



Nesting birds do mighty work. It takes them hours, but they use just what they have available to build a marvelous, cozy and safe home in which they can incubate, catch and raise babies. Together, we can pretend to be birds, each gathering materials, building a nest, caring for "eggs" and taking turns "feeding"our auides.

Video Read Aloud

Carpenter's Helper by Svbil Rosen and Camille Garoche

**Featured Creature** Robin

- Water bottle
- Seasonal Lavers

Like nesting birds, we use what we have to create a marvelous home.

Switching our approach to fit the situation is a key part of persistence.



This week, we will throw a party to celebrate all of our animal superheroes. We get our Persistence badges and the playing card for our final superhero: Explorers! We are Superheroes for our curiosity, empathy and creativity! Today is a day of joyful celebration and reflection. In the end, we circle around the greatest superheroes we know—our explorers!

Thank you to everyone for a wonderful season!

Explorers

Video Read Aloud Lucia, the Luchadora by

Cynthia Leonor Garza

**Featured Creature** 

- Blanket, table cloth or bed sheet
- Water bottle
- Seasonal Layers

### How best to dress for outdoor play this winter?

Visit our tinkergarten.com/winter page for tips and inspiration about how to gear kids (and you) up so you can stay safe and comfy learning outdoors all winter long—whatever winter looks like where you live.



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### Notes



To help explorers and guides reflect on all of the learning they've done and all of the joyful memories and friendships forged during the season, we will encourage families to review their Galleries and talk with their children about all that they learned this winter season. We'll also provide grown ups with some prompts to use with kids to get them thinking, talking and reflecting on all that they experienced outdoors this winter as they review their season maps, family Portfolio and class Galleries. We do this to reinforce all that kids have learned, boost their communication skills and deepen powerful memories.



To help explorers and guides embrace change and celebrate the rhythms and cycles of nature, we will celebrate the start of Daylight Savings Time and the moment where so many of us "spring forward" the clocks to experience one extra hour of daylight. More event info to come!

We will share more event information as we start our Winter, Animal Superheroes season. Families who enroll in Tinkergarten classes will be able to access resources to help them celebrate the coming of Spring and this special event in their My Tinkergarten Dashboard. We look forward to celebrating the cycles of the natural world and the power of community with you!

# What's Included Each Week? Each week, you will find the following program resources in your My Tinkergarten dashboard:

- What to bring to each live session.
- A video read-aloud of a marvelous book related to the week's theme, featured creature or season skill.
   Three at-home activities designed to help grown ups help
- kids keep building on the live lesson at home.
- Tips for grown ups in various formats (video, article, etc.)
- Access to seasonal resources like the Come to Tinkergarten song, season map and season overview.

# Animal Superhero Cards! Each week, kids will also take home a new trading card with fun facts and ways to play!



We created a quick "How it Works" video to show how to get the most out of the program this Winter season. You can find a link to it in your My Tinkergarten, too! We can't wait to learn with you!