

Level E | Unit 2

Dear Family Member,

"Just how smart are animals?" That is the big question we are exploring in this unit. To answer it, we are reading, writing, and talking about animal behavior, communication, and intelligence. Be a part of our exploration! With your student, read the New Words on the next page. Then follow these directions.

Directions:

- Together, interview friends and family members about things that pets or other animals do that show they are smart. Collect stories and examples. Try to use some of the New Words in your interviews.
- **2.** Work together to write notes about your interviews on the lines below. Try to include some of the New Words in your notes.
- **3.** Remind your student to bring the completed notes to class.

What We're Reading

"Love and Roast Chicken" by Barbara Knutson

In this tale, a clever guinea pig uses tricks to save himself from a hungry fox.

"Mouse Deer and Farmer" adapted from a story told by Aaron Shepard

This tale tells how Mouse Deer escapes danger by tricking a farmer's dog.

"Animal Smarts" by Leslie Hall

This science article discusses the many ways that animals communicate and show their intelligence.

"The Clever Chimps of Fongoli" by Elizabeth Sengel

In this article, Explorer Jill Pruetz studies how chimpanzees in Senegal use tools to find food.

And more!

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Weeks 1 and 2			
adaptation	predator	survival	
behavior	prey	trait	
characteristic	response		
defend	strategy		

Weeks 3 and 4

ability	inherit	pattern
command	language	skill
communication	learn	tool
imitate	memory	

Learn and play with words. 🕥 NGReach.com