

Dear Family: in class today, we made footprints on paper. We compared them to animal footprints.

Did you know?

- All mammals that move on the ground have padded feet. They can leave tracks.
- Animal tracks can tell us a little bit about the animal.
- Some animals use the same tracks over and over again. Black bears do this.
- Some scientists look at animal tracks. They can tell things about an animal.

Ask your child:

- Tell me about some of the animal footprints.
- What did you use to make footprints?
- How were your footprints different from the animal footprints?

Vocabulary:

- animal – a living thing. It is not a plant.
- track – a foot mark left on the ground. It is made by people or animal feet.
- footprint – a mark made by a foot. The foot was pressed onto something flat.
- compare – to say how two things are alike or different.
- habitat – the natural surroundings of an animal or plant.
- biologist – a type of scientist. They study living things.

Activity:

With your child, go on a footprint hunt. You can look on the ground around your home. You can look in a park or in a forest. Look for different footprints. Try to tell if a footprint was made by a large or small animal. Count the toes or claws. Try to follow the trail of footprints to see where the animal was going. When you get home, help your child draw the footprint of the animal. Send it to school to share with us.