

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Topic 3 of *Open Day Starter Home Connection*. We hope you enjoyed working with your child on Topic 2.

Topic 3 is called **My Favourite Animals and Me**. We all know children love to learn about plants and animals, and you can encourage your child's curiosity by finding ways to help him or her connect with nature. In this topic, your child will learn to talk about their body, animals and animals' bodies. He or she will be able to talk about different parts of their bodies and physical appearance, animals, parts of animals' bodies and where they live. The **Topic Preview Activity** is a great opportunity for you to show your child that you are interested in what he or she is learning in the English class. We will continue the theme of My Favourite Animals and Me in our **Animal Activities** by learning about orcas and Amur leopards.

The **Mindfulness** section of this topic focuses on mindful body meditation. Your child will be encouraged to pay attention to their body and meditate and in this way, become more aware of the present moment. Studies show that mindful body meditation helps children learn to handle upset more effectively and relax. In the **Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)** section, you will have the opportunity to help your child learn about the places where animals live and their characteristics. This will help children develop respect for life and nature. This is reinforced in the **Citizenship** section, where we will suggest that your children become aware of the importance of taking care of the environment.

This topic also shares our wonder of the natural world and some of the animals in it. In the **Closing Activity**, we will bring everything together by suggesting you make a memory game together. This will give you another opportunity to talk about animals as well as play a fun party game.

You don't have to do the activities all at once. We recommend that you try each of the activities after your child has completed the corresponding sections in their Student's Book or Practice Book. The corresponding Student's Book pages are indicated in each section. We hope you will enjoy taking this active role in your child's learning.



## Topic Preview Activity Student's Book pages 58-59

### My Favourite Animals and Me

Being curious about the world around us is very important. Developing curiosity helps a child grow and learn. We suggest you spend some time as a family helping your child learn about their own bodies and animals around the world and their characteristics.

- **Get Ready**

#### Part 1

Children are learning about parts of the body and physical appearance in this topic. Ask your child to name the parts of the body and adjectives for physical appearance in English.

#### Part 2

Play a guessing game to introduce your child to the theme of animals. You can play the *Ten Questions* game: Either you or your child choose an animal and the other person can ask up to ten questions to guess the animal. Or play *Animal Sounds*: One of you makes animal sounds and the other guesses the animal.

- **Animal Outing**

Take your child to a place where they can see animals, for example, an ecopark. Encourage your child to be inquisitive by asking the carers lots of questions about the animals. Put the information on your fridge door as a reminder! If you can't visit an ecopark, you can watch a video about animals together.

## Animal Activity Unit 5 Student's Book pages 62-63

- **Get Ready**

There are many curious facts about orcas your child will sure want to know about. We recommend you read this information about orcas and share it with your children: <https://www.muyinteresante.es/naturaleza/fotos/curiosidades-sobre-las-orcas-831600358385>

- **Watch a video about Orcas**

You and your child will enjoy watching videos about orcas together. We recommend these two but you can choose any other you want:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-l8TzWV\\_IZA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-l8TzWV_IZA)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CAD7XcWrqk8>

After watching the videos, you can comment on the facts that called your attention the most and draw some pictures.



## Mindfulness Student's Book page 66

- **Get Ready**

This topic's mindfulness focus is mindful body meditation. The idea is for your child to become more aware of his / her body, meditate and relax. This will help your child focus on the present moment.

- **Practise Mindful Body Meditation**

Try doing this meditation exercise together with your child from time to time after school or before bedtime. Your child learnt how to do this at school. Get him or her to teach you! This will help your child and yourself to get ready for a good night's sleep, relax and become aware of your body.

## Animal Activity Unit 6 Student's Book pages 72-73

- **Get Ready**

The endangered animal in this unit is the Amur leopard. Find out some information about it to share with your child. You can visit these sites to get informed:

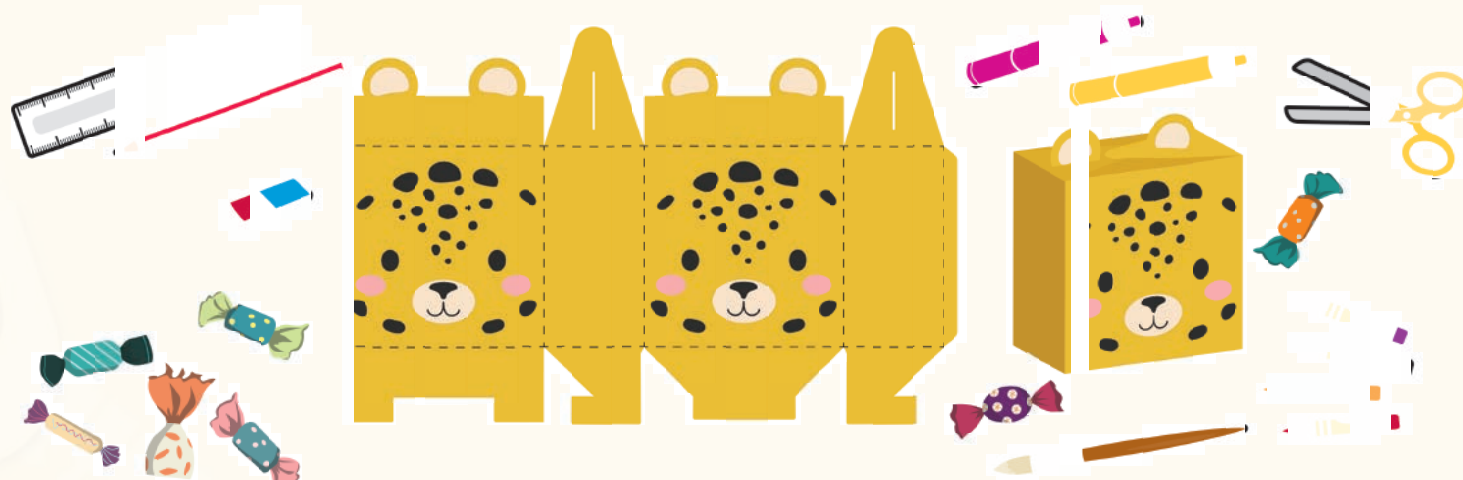
<https://www.planetprotector.com/post/amur-leopard-facts-for-kids>

[https://reinoanimalia.fandom.com/es/wiki/Leopardo\\_de\\_Amur](https://reinoanimalia.fandom.com/es/wiki/Leopardo_de_Amur)

- **Make a Sweets Leopard Container**

Share some time with your children making an arts and crafts activity: a *Sweets Leopard* Container. Follow these simple steps for this activity:

<https://www.craftologia.com/tips/tips-de-fiestas/tips-de-ninos/como-hacer-un-dulcero-de-leopardo>



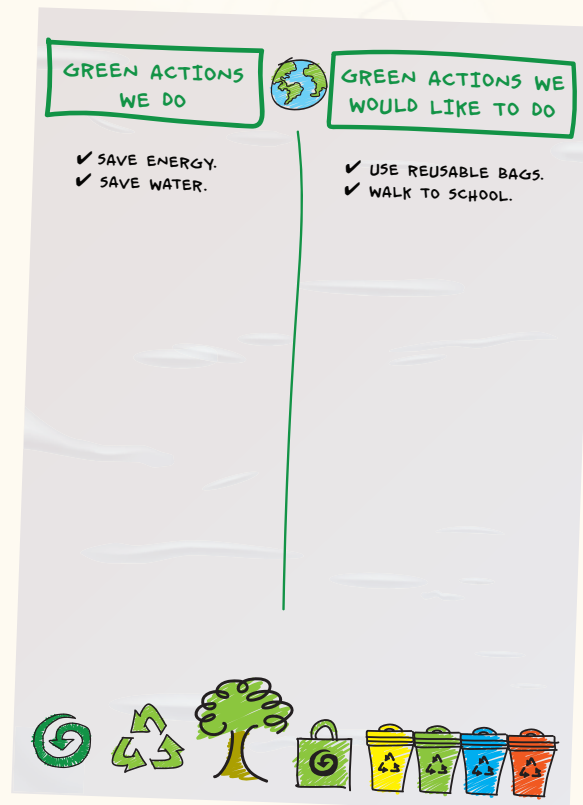
## Citizenship Student's Book page 76

### • Get Ready

The value for this topic is taking care of the environment. It is important to help your son or daughter understand that it is the small actions that make the big difference. With little things, we can all develop respect for nature and natural resources and help the planet.

### • Make a *Green Actions* Poster

Together with your child, think about the green actions you do and the ones you would like to do. Write them down on a piece of cardboard and put it in a visible place at home. You can add more actions with time. Instead of writing down the actions, you can also draw them.



## Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) Student's Book page 78

### • Get Ready

The more we know about endangered animals, the better prepared we will be to do something to help. Ask your child about the vulnerable animals they studied about and the places where they live. Which of these places can you find near your house?

### • Make an *Endangered Animal* Diorama

Together with your child, choose one or two vulnerable animals and make an *Endangered Animal* Diorama. This is one way to increase your child's awareness about endangered species. This video shows you some examples:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSOVRD3NfCQ>

To make it, decorate a shoebox or any kind of recycled box to look like your animal's natural habitat. Then help your child make a model of the animal out of plasticine or clay and place the animal where it lives. Have your child stick a label on the box with the name of the animal and the habitat.





## Closing Activity Student's Book page 81

### Make a Memory Game

A memory game is one you can always use to spend more time together as a family. Your children can also use it to play with their friends whenever they want.

- **Get Ready**

This is a very simple memory game which will help your children's memory and review the names of the animals studied in this topic. You will need some cardboard, scissors, glue, crayons, markers, colour pencils and any other decorative material.

- **Make a Memory Game**

To make the cards for the memory game, help your child draw the different animals studied in this topic. You can also cut them out of magazines and glue them on the cards. Then help children write down the names of the animals on different cards. You can decorate the reverse side of the cards if you want as well. The idea of the game is to put down all the cards and take turns to turn them around so that they show pictures and words. When they match, they stay in place. When they don't, you turn them down again until all the pictures and words are shown. It's great fun and you can play it as many times as you want!

