The wild animals say,
(Same as above.)
"Don’t touch us!"
(Same as above.)
"I am wild and free!"
(Raise both of your arms up and out.)

2. The Ethologist Song
Who studies wild animals in the wild, where they normally live?
The ethologist, of course! Ask your students how many of them have ever watched ants in an ant hill outside or a spider spinning a web outdoors. Did they know that they were doing what an ethologist does—studying animals where those animals live?
Point out to students that some scientists don’t capture wild animals in order to study them. Instead, these scientists go to where the wild animals normally live and study them in their natural habitats. Then try out our “Ethologist Song” with your class.
When the song is over, ask students what other animals an ethologist might watch and what he or she might see doing. Care to try making up a new verse or two, anyone? Sing to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

Verses:

Verse 1.
Come and watch wild animals, animals, animals.
(Pantomime looking through binoculars.)

Verse 2.
Do you see a kangaroo? Kangaroo? Kangaroo?
(Hold hands like paws in front of chest.)
It loves to jump along.
(Have students bounce up and down in their seats or as they are seated on the floor.)

Verse 3.
Do you see an elephant? Elephant? Elephant?
Do you see an elephant?
(Stretch arms out and down with hands held together to make an elephant trunk.)

Verse 4.
Do you see a bold eagle, bold eagle, bold eagle?
Do you see a bold eagle?
(Flap arms like wings.)
It loves to fly along.
(Move body from side to side as you flap your arms like an eagle soaring.)

Verse 5.
Do you see a chimpanzee? Chimpanzee? Chimpanzee?
Do you see a chimpanzee?
(Scratch head with one hand, side with the other.)
It loves to climb along.
(Put one hand over the other in a climbing motion.)

3. Animals We Love
Here’s a song that helps students learn animal names.
Accompany the different verses with a picture of each animal to reinforce learning.
Sing to the tune of “Old MacDonald Had a Farm.”

Verse 1.
Here’s an animal we love!
Ee-I-Ee-I-O
And don’t you know it is a bear?
Ee-I-Ee-I-O
With a bear, bear, bear.
And a bear, bear, bear.
Here a bear, there a bear.
Everywhere a bear, bear.
Here’s an animal we love!
Ee-I-Ee-I-O
(Note: some other animal names that work well include owl, snake, duck, mouse, bird, worm, mouse, goat, dog, cat, cow, and horse.)

Verse 2.
Do you see a kangaroo? Kangaroo? Kangaroo?
(Hold hands like paws in front of chest.)
It loves to jump along.
(Have students bounce up and down in their seats or as they are seated on the floor.)

Verse 3.
Do you see an elephant? Elephant? Elephant?
Do you see an elephant?
(Stretch arms out and down with hands held together to make an elephant trunk.)

Verse 4.
Do you see a bold eagle, bold eagle, bold eagle?
Do you see a bold eagle?
(Flap arms like wings.)
It loves to fly along.
(Move body from side to side as you flap your arms like an eagle soaring.)

Verse 5.
Do you see a chimpanzee? Chimpanzee? Chimpanzee?
Do you see a chimpanzee?
(Scratch head with one hand, side with the other.)
It loves to climb along.
(Put one hand over the other in a climbing motion.)

4. Ms. MacDonald Had a Dog
Here’s another variation on “Old MacDonald Had a Farm.”
Before students begin singing, have them name some of the things that a pet dog needs. Possible student answers may include love, brushing, food, water, walks, shots, and so on. Have students sing the sample first verse and then make up additional verses based on the pet needs that they have named. Or challenge students to think of the needs of some other domestic animals—a cat, a cow, or a pig, for instance.

Verse 1.
Ms. MacDonald had a dog.
Ee-I-Ee-I-O
And this dog he needed...LOVE!
Ee-I-Ee-I-O

With some love, love, here;
And some love, love, there.
Here some love, there some love,
Everywhere some love, love.
Ms. MacDonald had a dog.
Ee-I-Ee-I-O.

5. Endangered Friends
This delightful round can be used to teach very young students about endangered animal friends and some of the things those animals need in their natural habitats to survive.
Sing to the tune of “Scotland’s Burning.”

Verse 1.
Giant pandas, giant pandas.
Help them, help them.
Save land, save land.
We share the earth, we share the earth.

Verse 2.
Bald eagles, bold eagles.
Help them, help them.
Save land, save land.
We share the earth, we share the earth.

Verse 3.
Mountain lions, mountain lions.
Help them, help them.
Save land, save land.
We share the earth, we share the earth.

Verse 4.
Diving whales, diving whales.
Help them, help them.
Keep safe, keep safe.
We share the earth, we share the earth.

Verse 5.
Ridley turtles, ridley turtles.
Help them, help them.
Keep safe, keep safe.
We share the earth, we share the earth.

Coming in our February issue of Children & Animals...
A Full-size Poster for your classroom
How to sponsor
A Humane Education Reading Week
in your school
Choral Reading for all ages