



**MIND
ACTIVITY**

FRANCIS & FRIENDS

EVERYTHING HAS ITS PLACE

written by Jennifer Tinker

Activity Instructions

Francis took time to thank animals for being who they are. Find some animals and tell them “thank you.” You don’t have to go very far to do this. Even in a small yard, there are many animals living all around you. If you want to venture out further, you could visit a nature park to see more variety of animals.

Go outside and find as many animals as you can. Observe them in their natural habitat; watch them work, play, eat or sleep.

Think about the role each animal plays in creation (bees make honey, worms help with decomposition, squirrels help plant new trees, etc.). Talk together about what you know about each kind of animal.

While you’re there, take time to talk to the animals. You could give them names if you like, or just address them by their common name. Tell them what you noticed about them and thank them for their role in God’s world.

If you like, you can photograph or sketch the animals you see and talk to.

You could also use your pictures to make a collage. Write “I am thankful for...” at the top, paste your pictures in a pleasing arrangement, and label each animal with its common name.

Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn or notice about an animal that you never noticed before?
2. What creatures were hardest to thank? Why?
3. Which animals would you like to learn more about or understand better?
4. What difference does it make if we think about all of the animals as brothers and sisters in our family?

Supply List

Camera (optional)

Writing or drawing supplies (optional)



Prayer

Dear God, thank you for making animals to populate the world. We thank you especially for *(list any or all of the animals you saw)*. Help us to love all creatures and live with respect for each one you have created.