



Summer 2014

My Friend Rabbit Book & Materials

Material for Reading to Children,
Karina Lopez



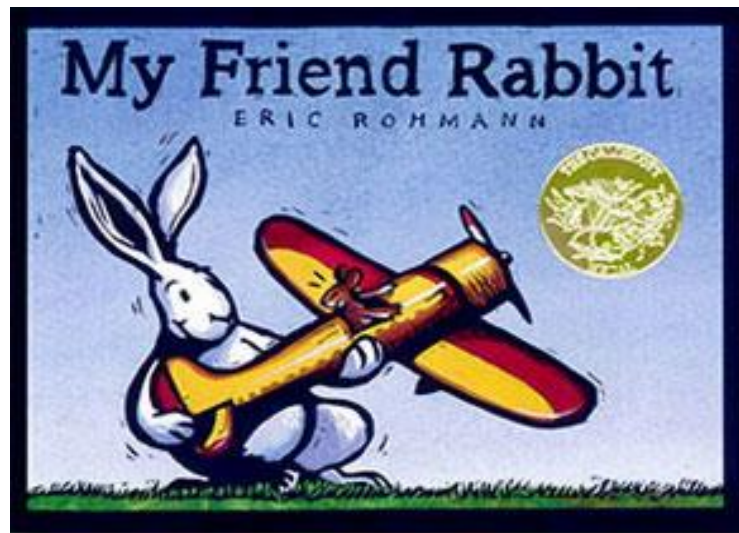
Professor Jean K.
HAWAII PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

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My Friend Rabbit Written & illustrated by Eric Rohmann

*“My friend
Rabbit means
well. But
whatever he
does, where he
goes trouble
follows. But
Rabbit means
well. And he is
my friend.”*



http://www.ericrohmann.com/pages/books/bk_myfriendrab.html

About the book

Eric Rohmann set out to create a book that was filled with a passion for printmaking. His characters are all outlines in black, the colors bright and simple. His characters in this book are most of the action and are placed against a light blue and refreshing background. The pages consist of one or two characters and very minimal print. Rohmann allows for his

wonderful creative characters to tell the story with their clever facial expressions and human like gestures along with a story written in minimal text.

An Inside Look This book is very clever and warm. The two main characters are Rabbit and Mouse. Rabbit and Mouse are very good friends. *My Friend Rabbit* consists of the character Mouse telling the reader a little about his friendship with the character Rabbit. Whenever there is a problem or an issue, Rabbit wants to take care of things. Rabbit wants to be the problem solver. “Not to worry, Mouse. I’ve got an idea!” Rabbit says. While Rabbit may mean no harm his ideas end up getting both Mouse and him into a bigger mess. Mouse ends the story with, “Rabbit means well. And he is my friend.” Mouse defends Rabbit and still loves him regardless of his silly heroic ideas, and his faults.

Materials

- * *Construction paper scraps*
- * *Colored Card stock*
- * *Crayons, markers, or color pencils*
- * *All types of ribbons, lace or sequence*
- * *Ruler*
- * *Pencil*
- * *Scissors*

Tip: Invite families to send a picture of the student and their friend to class. They can show and tell their card and picture if there is time after the activity at the end of class.

An Art Activity

Friendship/ Greeting Cards

Greeting Cards are used all over the world and have multiple purposes. They can be used to send a greeting, to send congratulations or condolences. Yet they are often used to celebrate a birth, a birthday, or an anniversary. They can also be used to send thanks.

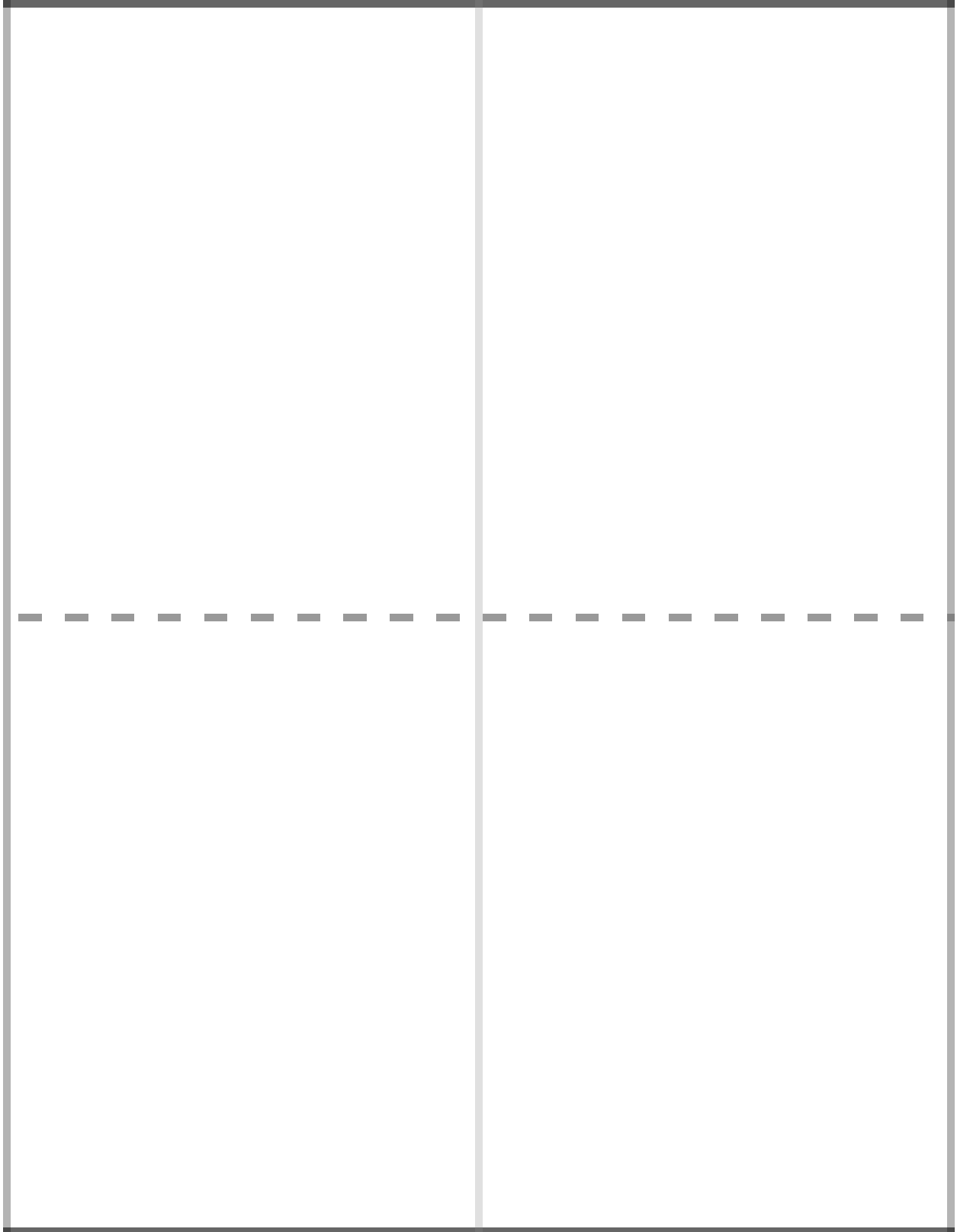
Cards are versatile in that they can be folded any which way and can be decorated with almost any material. Cards serve a purpose of sending a special message. The special message in the book *My Friend Rabbit* is one of friendship and love.

1. Give children the prompt of choosing a friend they think fondly of, a friend they appreciate, a friend who is special to them. This friend could be someone they play, read or go on adventures with, just like Rabbit and Mouse.
2. Hand out card template. Encourage children to make different folds, a triangle fold, or a long rectangular fold.
3. Have children draw themselves and their friend on the card using construction paper, markers and crayons and decorate it with ribbon and buttons.
4. Have children write the words from the board 'You are my special friend.' And initial it.
5. If there is time show the example cards to spark ideas and creativity.



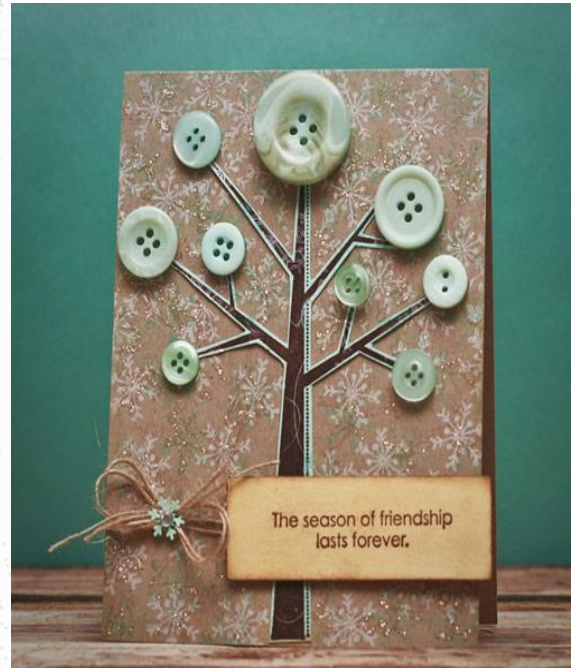
(Internet Image, content by: Karina Lopez)

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Card Examples



Materials

- * *My Friend Rabbit* by Eric Rohmann (1 copy necessary)
- * *Animal Count Worksheet*



Tip: If there are not enough animals around the room the children can have a drawing session where they all draw three animals and choose where to put them in the classroom. This makes it special when they have to search and count them. (10 Minutes)



A Math Activity

Counting Animals

Counting different objects or creatures can be a fun way to learn numbers and the names of creatures. This activity is easy and simple and can be completed whenever there is 10 minutes to spare in a classroom. Two children can be paired off at a time to sit together and count the different types of animals in the book.



The work sheet is for the children to place the number of a specific animal they have counted in the book. The children are looking for how many times a specific animal has appeared with in the story. This is great

for children to revisit and read (if age level appropriate) the book with a partner all while rehearsing animal names and numbers.

1. Place students into pairs of two.
2. Give them the book, *My Friend the Rabbit* by Eric Rohmann.
3. Give them the counting work sheet (attached) to complete with instructions to look at book together and count the animals they find, and place the number next to the image.
4. If children finish and there are two other students who have time to complete activity and work sheet move onto them.

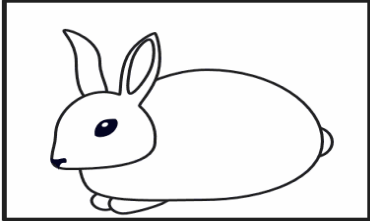

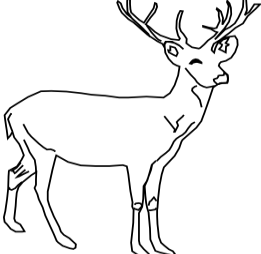
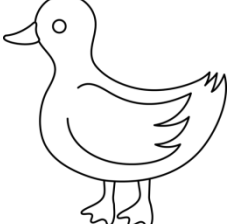
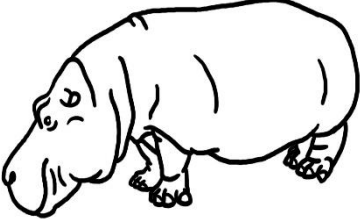
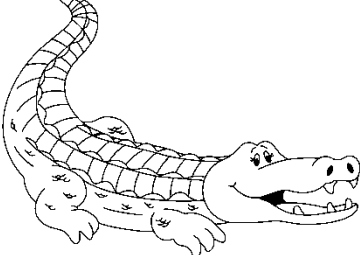
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"How many deer's do you see, one deer, two deer, three deer's?"

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Animal

Number

(Google images; animal clip art)

A Science Activity

Animal Footprints

Animals and mythical creatures can be fascinating to children. Children will talk to them and play with them, real or imaginary. Just like humans have hands and feet, animals do also, but theirs come in all shapes, colors and sizes.

This activity will have the learners pick a paw print that intrigues them, from a rabbit, to a mouse, to a deer or even an elephant and they will be drawing it. The key is to have children choose from the animal print examples, keep their choice a secret, draw it and have their classmates guess the animal. Students can even be placed in pairs and play the guessing game.

1. Hand out scrap paper.
2. Hand out animal print examples.
3. Instruct students to choose an animal and their print to draw very largely
4. After every one has drawn their prints pick three students to present to the class.
5. Have whole class guessing the animal who's print was chosen and drawn.

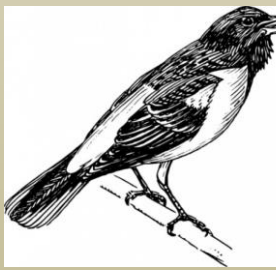


(Internet Image)

Materials

- * Pencil
- * Crayons
- * Scrap paper
- * Animal paw print sheet

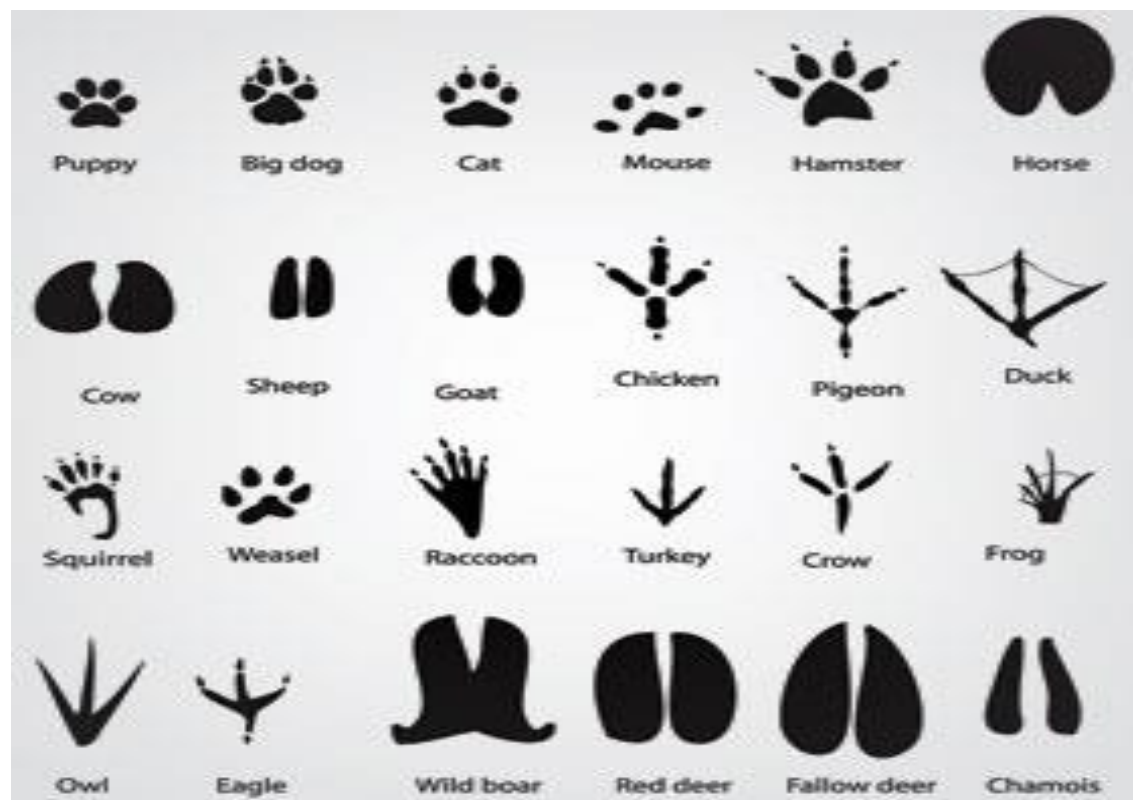
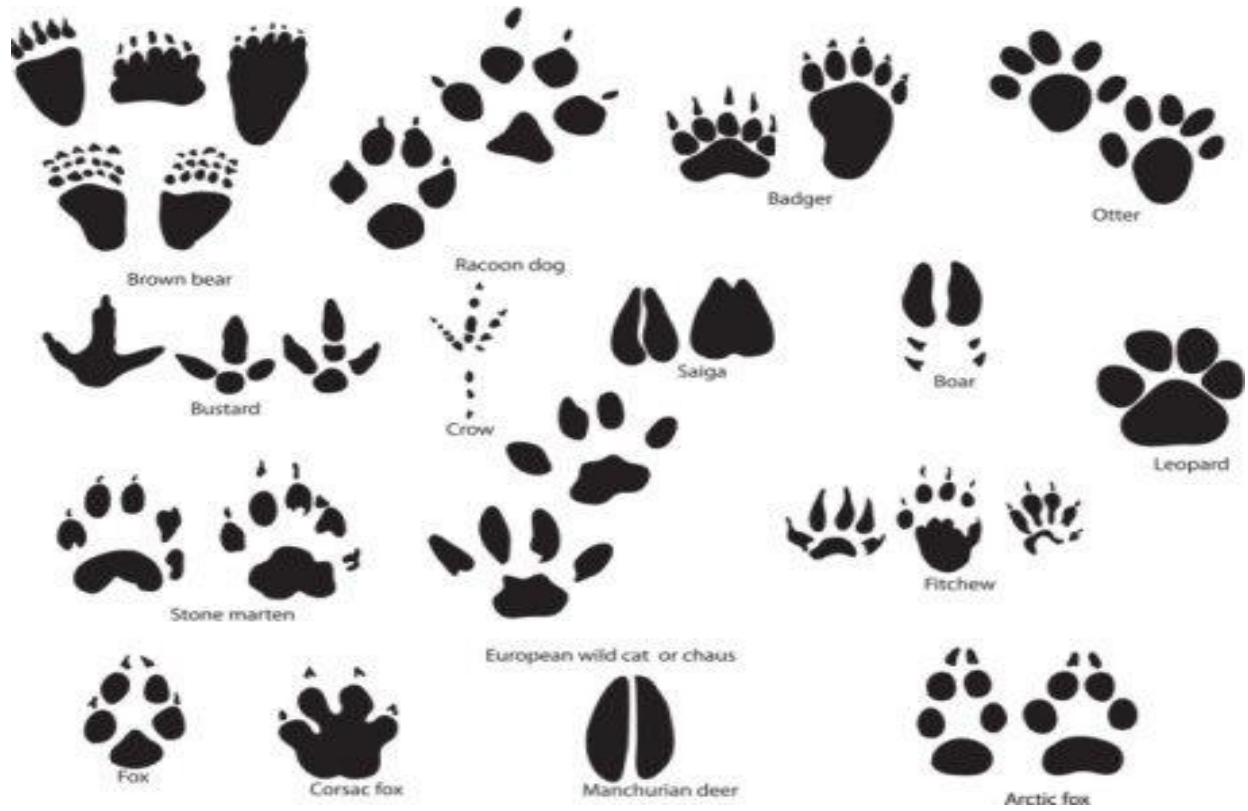
Tip: Encourage students to be on the lookout for animal paw prints, in their home, at the park or at the beach and if possible to draw them, or take a picture. Animal prints can show up at the most wonderful unexpected places.



DID YOU KNOW?
“LIKE HUMAN TODDLERS,
GREAT APES, MAGPIES
AND DOLPHINS,
ELEPHANTS HAVE PASSED
THE MIRROR TEST—THEY
RECOGNIZE THEMSELVES
IN A MIRROR.”

WWW.SMITHSONIAN.COM

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A Geography Activity

Where do the animals live?

In Eric Rohmann's book *My Friend Rabbit* there are a lot of animals. He does not say where they come from or where they live so this is a great opportunity for discovery.

This activity is great for learning about different animals and where they are from in the world. It also serves as a great activity to learn different parts of the world.

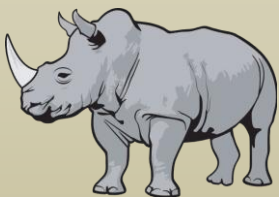
1. Give children a fact sheet, an empty map and cut out animal worksheet
2. Have students cut animals.
3. Arrange learners in a circle and use Eric Rohmann, *My Friend Rabbit* book to point at different animals and discuss where they come from.
4. Guess each animal's place of origin. (Where do they come from?)

Materials

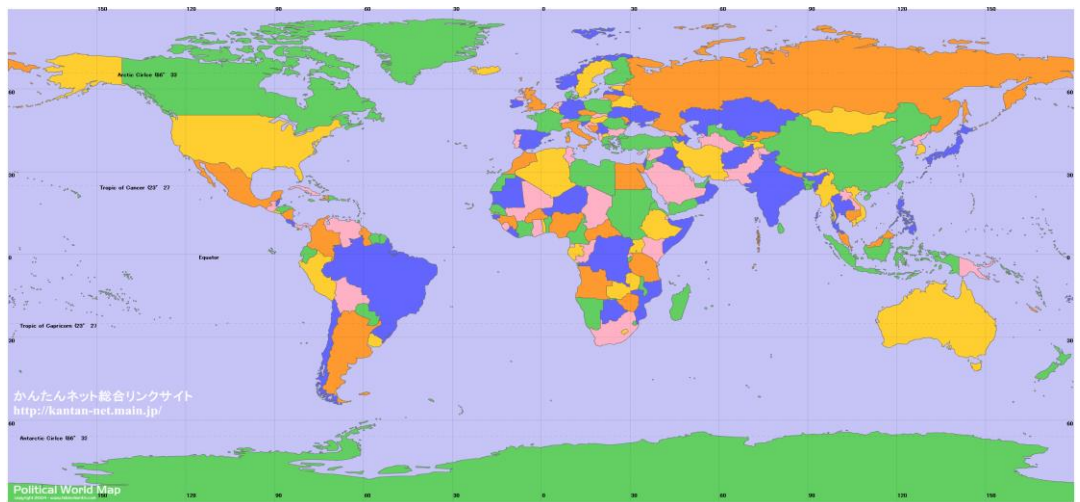
- * Copies of blank map of the world.
- * Different cut out animals worksheet
- * *My Friend Rabbit*, by Eric Rohmann



Tip: Have children brainstormed a favorite animal and where they live or where they come from.



(Internet image)



Did you know?

Rhinos live mostly in South Africa. Do you know where South Africa is on the map?

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