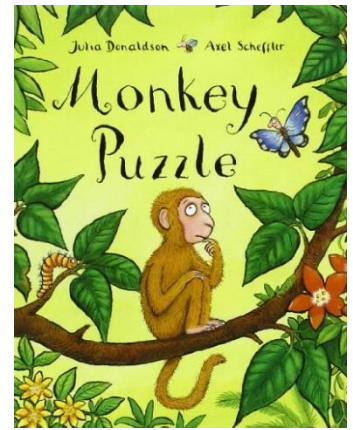


Monkey Puzzle

By Julia Donaldson



- The baby monkey in the story is scared and worried because he is missing his mummy. Talk with your child about what makes them scared or worried (it's also a good opportunity to talk with your child about what they should do if ever they are lost).
- There are lots of lovely descriptive words in this story like 'hairy,' 'slimy,' 'baggy' and 'furry.' Put a selection of toys/objects in a bag and pick one to describe to your child – see if they can guess what it is from your description.
- Look on line for printable of animals and their children. Print them out and cut them up and play a matching game.
- The illustrations in this book are beautiful. See if your child can count the different animals for example how many caterpillars are on the leaf?
- Draw/print out a picture of the mummy monkey and hide her around the house. Use positional language (next to, on top of, beside, under, etc) to give clues as to where she is. Or play warmer/colder when your child is hunting around the room for the picture saying 'warmer, warmer' when they get close to the hiding place and 'brrr, that's getting colder' as they move away from it.
- Use the internet to find out facts about the different animals in the story, make them into a scrap book.
- In the summer try a butterfly/caterpillar hunt and talk about the life cycle of a butterfly.
- Make a symmetrical butterfly. Fold over a piece of paper and open it again. Paint on one side then fold again pressing down hard. When dry, add the face and body.
- Paint your own handprint monkey like the picture below (instructions on Twinkl.co.uk)

