

**The Baby Proboscis Monkey & the Baby Macaque**  
**Animal Babies: Born Wild Series**

**Subject Areas:** Science, Life Science, Language Arts, Social Studies

**Synopsis:** Follows Bill's day traveling with his mother from tree to tree. His father, the chief proboscis monkey, ignores his son so his mother teaches Bill everything he has to know to survive in the forest. In an Asian forest, we observe a macaque baby who is the center of his mother's attention. He learns to groom himself and settle his jealous battle with his baby brother. When an adult macaque sees a snake, he gives a warning shout and everyone heads for the water for a swim.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Objective 1)** Students will be able to identify and describe the main characteristics of proboscis monkeys and macaques.
- Objective 2)** Students will be able to describe how the parents care for the animal babies.
- Objective 3)** Students will understand the concept of “family” in the animal and the human world.
- Objective 4)** Students will understand that all animals are defenseless when they are born but that they all learn to survive against predators and support themselves by finding their own sources of food.
- Objective 5)** Students will understand that for animals and for humans, learning is part of growth.
- Objective 6)** Students will understand that all babies grow to become adult members of their species.

**Pre-Viewing Questions and Activities:**

- 1) What is the outstanding physical characteristic of a proboscis monkey?
- 2) How do proboscis monkeys differ from other monkeys?
- 3) What is a macaque?
- 4) Why do monkeys groom one another?

**Vocabulary:** Define and discuss the following key terms:

Proboscis, responsibility, function, acrobatics, hit the road, advantage, imitate, excited, clan, virgin forest, reserved, groomed, tradition, suckling, rival, vindictive, panic-stricken, alert

**Post-Viewing Questions and Discussion:**

- 1) Who taught Bill to travel from tree to tree?
- 2) Describe Bill's relationship with his father.
- 3) Describe the landscape where proboscis monkeys and macaques live.

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- 4) Why is grooming so important to macaques?
- 5) What do macaques eat?
- 6) How do they escape from their enemies?

### **Additional Activities:**

- 1) Write a story about baby proboscis monkey that can't understand why his father ignores him.
- 2) Pretend it is one year later. Tell what the baby monkey has learned about the rest of the proboscis monkeys and how they survive in their Asian forest home.
- 3) Do library or Internet research and make a list of the natural enemies of macaques or proboscis monkeys.
- 4) Write a brief story that explains why macaque babies are so jealous of one another.
- 5) On the Internet or in the school media center, find further information about either of these animals. Present the information in an entertaining way to classmates who think there is nothing more to learn about proboscis monkeys or macaques.

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