Animals in the City
It’s easy to see animals in the zoo. But if you look around in the city, animals are everywhere!
Pigeons are everywhere in the city, picking up food on the streets.
Raccoons live in the city too. Sometimes they look for food in the trash.
This moose walked all the way from the forest into someone's front yard!
This swan is crossing the street to get back to the lake.
In some cities, horses help the police keep people safe.
In other cities, elephants give people rides on the streets.
There are lots of animals in the city. What animal will you see next?
The Mustard Seed Books project uses an open-source, Wikipedia-type strategy, leveraging public expertise to create and refine a set of high-quality books that support early reading development. All of the books and pictures are covered by the Creative Commons License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/) and are free to print, distribute, and modify for personal or educational use. The books are available at www.mustardseedbooks.org. New titles appear on a regular basis. If you have any ideas for books or would like to leave us any feedback, contact rick@mustardseedbooks.org.

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Our aim with this series of books is to weave together two significant goals in the design of early reading materials—that the books are both instructional and engaging. Books designed to develop reading skills often end up feeling like work to read, while books designed to be interesting are often too difficult for beginning readers.

These books for beginning readers support phonics-based classroom instruction by including a high concentration of phonetically regular words, as well as the most commonly used sight words. However, the books are written using pictures and stories that make sense and promote both language and conceptual development. The books encourage questions, conversations and thoughtful engagement, aiming towards the new common core standards. Our intent is to produce books that kids want to read, think about, talk about and read again.