ENERGY INFOGRAPHIC
In reading “Belugas,” pages 16–21, you learn how these small whales send waves of sound energy through the water to find what they need or to “see” where they are going. As a family, discuss different forms of energy and where that energy comes from. Create a list, ask your children to choose three from the list and create an infographic. Your child’s infographic should include the type of energy, the source of energy, and an illustration. Here are a few examples to help you get started:
- sound energy; beluga clicks
- heat energy; the sun
- motion energy; a ball being thrown

PINK IS THE WORD
If pink is a trending color this month, then the wildlife in “Pink in the Wild,” pages 22–25, is on point! Have your child choose one of the animals in the story as the focus of a two- to four-sentence story using alliteration and incorporating the word pink. Then have a pink prose party!

WILDLIFE CROSSINGS
In “Tiger Tales,” pages 26–29, Ranger Rick and friends help us understand how important large pieces of connected, protected land are to wildlife. In many places, busy roads split up the wild land that animals need to breed and survive. So people are starting to build overpasses and underpasses just for wildlife, which allow animals to safely cross the roads. Have children think about the wildlife in their state. Children may need to do a little research if they are unfamiliar with the state’s animals. Your child can work alone or work together as a family to brainstorm a corridor design. For which animal(s) is the crossing designed? What natural elements will be a part of the design? With a design fleshed out, build a model using items at home. Make time for each child to share their model and encourage them to explain what they learned, who the crossing benefits, and how they’d go about getting the crossing built.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER
After reading “Project Kiwi,” pages 30–35, your child might think birds are fascinating! While the kiwi is certainly a cool bird, there are many interesting birds wherever you live. Some birds may stay in your area all year round. Others may spend one season in town or just stop over during migration.

Ask your child to learn more about the area’s native birds. Using Google, they will type their state plus “native birds.” A list of birds (and images) will appear. Let your child choose a bird to learn about. Next, they should reread “Project Kiwi” and identify the specific kiwi facts—for example, what they eat and where they sleep—that can be researched about other birds. Once they have researched their chosen bird, allow them to be creative in choosing how to share what they learned: They may create a slide show, a visual storybook, or another artwork.
BE MY WILD VALENTINE!

After reading “Pink in the Wild” on pages 22–25, cut out the Valentine’s Day cards. On the back, choose a pink-themed animal fact to share. Your friends will love learning about wildlife!

RANGER RICK ANIMAL FACT:
The pink freshwater dolphin can weigh more than 400 pounds.

RANGER RICK ANIMAL FACT:
The pink land iguana lives in only one place: a small part of the Galápagos Islands.

RANGER RICK ANIMAL FACT:
Flamingos are pink because of a special chemical in the food they eat.

RANGER RICK ANIMAL FACT:
The pink robin is only found in Australia. Only the males have the bright pink feathers.

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Welcome to the Pack
by Ayla the African Wild Dog, as told to Anne Cissel

I may look a little like a pet dog, but don’t take me home with you! And please don’t ask me to play fetch. I am a wild dog, after all. People also call African wild dogs “painted wolves” because of our splotchy fur coats. (But we aren’t really wolves.) We each have our own unique pattern of brown, white, and black patches on our fur—no two coats are alike. This helps us tell each other apart.

See my big ears? They allow me to hear danger nearby. Or to detect the sound of an animal that could be my next meal. Not to brag, but we are the best hunters in Africa—even better than lions!

But the most important thing to know about us is how we stick together, helping each other survive. I live with my mom and dad, as well as lots of brothers, sisters, aunts, and uncles. We eat, sleep, play, and hunt together in a pack. Let’s take a peek at my family life!

Welcome to Welcome to the Pack
by Ayla the African Wild Dog, as told to Anne Cissel

In “African Wild Dogs” on pages 6–11, we learned about these canines’ family structure and how they work together for the good of the whole pack. Below, write about or draw your family. Questions to consider if you are writing about your family can include:

- Who’s in your family?
- Where do you live?
- What do meals together look like?
- What does bedtime look like?
- What are some of your family’s favorite activities to do together?
IF YOU WERE AS TALL AS A TREE

Go on a walk and look up at the trees you see. Imagine you were as tall as a giraffe—as high as the treetops. How would your view be different?

Keep a Record!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Helpful Things to Take Along</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Binoculars (to get a close-up view of the treetops)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Art supplies for drawing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Location __________________________
Weather __________________________

During or after your walk, write and draw your thoughts about what life would be like if you were as tall as a tree. How would the world look? What could you do? What couldn’t you do? Use the back of this page if you need more space.