

# *Savanna Safari*

## Magnetic Board Pieces

Kids love manipulating magnetic figures, and in a classroom there is no end of places to put them—on file cabinets, on the white board, even cookie sheets make wonderful portable, and cheap magnetic surfaces. My classroom kiddos of all ages used these figures to retell stories they had heard, to make up their own stories, to make words, make math problems, and to share what they had learned with the class. These African savanna images are easy to make using magnetic paper, which you can buy at most discount stores. Whether magnetic or flannel, your kids will have fun learning more about the African savanna as they play with these colorful, realistic images.



### Preparation Directions:

1. Run off pages 2-11 on magnetic paper, trim, and place in a large labeled manila envelope. (Use the label above right.) One customer told me you can laminate magnetic paper to make it stronger, but I've never tried it. (You can cut off the white bubble on the images if you like.)
2. **OR**, run on cover stock, laminate, trim, and attach sticky-back magnet strips or dots to the back of each item. You can get them at most hobby or DIY home stores.

### Uses:

- Tell a story to the class using the pieces.
- Create a setting for a story or report about life on the savanna.
- Use the pieces to introduce plants and animals of the savanna.
- Give small groups a set of pieces and have each group create a story or report to share with the class.
- Put the pieces in a hat. Have one student at a time pull out a piece, then make up a sentence about the item and add it to the board. The sentence could continue a story the group is creating.
- Put the materials at your classroom center or museum for free time play.
- Have each student choose an item and do some research to share with the class.

### Cheap Magnet Boards:

Buy 2-3 cookie sheets or stove covers from a dollar store. For a couple of bucks you'll have a nice addition for a classroom center.









































