1) Have any data been collected for this study already?
It’s complicated. We have already collected some data but explain in Question 8 why readers may consider this a valid pre-registration nevertheless.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?
Research Questions:
(1) Do children demonstrate curiosity or a confirmation-bias when engaging with new information about animals in books? Specifically, do children seek books with counterintuitive or intuitive information?
(2) Are there age-related trends in the direction and strength of curiosity across early and middle childhood?
(3) How do individual differences in curiosity relate to other variables, including children's intellectual humility, children's previous experience engaging with media about animals, and parents' tendency to introduce children to unusual (rather than ordinary) ideas in books?

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.
The main dependent variable is children's curiosity, gauged by the number of books about counterintuitive animal properties (rather than intuitive animal properties) that children choose to read with the researcher, across 12 book pairs (range 0-12). For each of 12 book pairs, children's selection of a book that contains intuitive/belief-consistent information will be scored 0. Children's selection of a book that contains counterintuitive/belief-inconsistent information will be scored 1. If children are unable to decide between two books in a pair, their response will be coded .5 for that pair.

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?
There are no conditions.

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.
The focal analyses will involve analyzing the extent to which, (a) children prefer to read books that contain intuitive or counterintuitive information, and (b) the extent to which this varies across early and middle childhood.
(a) will be addressed with t-tests against chance for the sample as a whole
(b) will be addressed with analyses that evaluate age-related trends categorically (ANOVAs), and analyses that evaluate age-related trends continuously (regressions). T-tests against chance will also be conducted, among younger and older participants. In ANOVAs and regression analyses, we will include variables for test site (Nashville vs. Toronto) and interaction effects to account for the possibility that age-related trends might vary across test site (although we have no hypotheses concerning differences across test sites).
Exploratory analyses (correlations and regressions) will be conducted to evaluate the extent to which individual differences in curiosity relate to other variables, including children's intellectual humility, children's previous experience engaging with media about animals, and parents' tendency to introduce children to unusual (rather than ordinary) ideas in books.

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.
Children who end the study session early will be excluded from analyses.

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.
Our target sample size is 160 participants total (based on a-priori power analyses). Approximately 80 participants will be recruited from Nashville, TN, US. Approximately 80 participants will be recruited from Toronto, ON, Canada.

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)
Data have been collected from 18 participants in Nashville (11% of the recruitment goal). These data have been collected at the tail-end of our piloting and RA training, and since all of those study sessions proceeded well, those participants' data will be included in the final sample (rather than waste valuable data). This decision was based solely on the quality of the study sessions. No analyses (formal or informal) have been conducted with the data.
Parents will be asked to complete voluntary questionnaires that ask about family demographics, children's intellectual humility, children's previous experience engaging with media about animals, and parents' tendency to introduce children to unusual (rather than ordinary) ideas in books. The parent-report measure of parents' tendency to introduce children to unusual (rather than ordinary) ideas in books was recently added to the parent questionnaire, and so those data are not available for the first 18 participants.