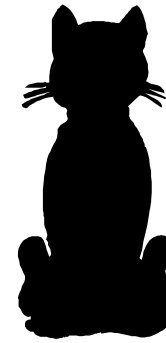


Animals



Sing nursery rhymes that have animals in them
for example

Old MacDonald
Five little Ducks

Cut out some pictures from magazines or have some to look at in books or models.
Play the 'Guess who' game. The adult starts by giving broad clues such as
"I have four legs." The child guesses. The adult keeps giving clues until the correct animal is guessed. Then swap.

Listening carefully

"I want you to listen for an animal. When you hear it touch my arm"

- a) pen ten hen when
- b) now how bow cow
- c) log dog fog log
- d) fat pat hat cat
- e) sheep sleep deep keep
- f) scowl growl prowl owl
- g) fig dig pig wig

Play "Kim's game"

Place a number of objects on the table. Talk about each one. Is it shiny, rough or long?

What do we use it for? Where would we find it?

Adult takes away one object while the child closes their eyes. Can they guess what is missing? Swap.

Child watches as adult moves around the room touching several objects. Parent says can you remember which things I touched?

Discuss the family pet. Do they remember when they got it? Who gave it a name? What was it like? What does it like to eat? What does it like to play with?

Discuss the care of the pet and who does what job to keep it well?

Play the 'BECAUSE' game

Adult asks the child to complete sequences. For example

John was off school because.....

Mary burst into tears because.....

Dad rushed to the telephone because.....

Tom blew out the candles because.....

You can also play a silly version of this game too!

Play hide the toy animal. Child hides the toy. Adult asks questions

"Is it behind the sofa?"

The child can only answer with a yes or no.

Try to include lots of position words (behind, under, in front, left side, on top of..)

When the toy is found swap roles.

With thanks to Tracey Spence, Advisory Teacher for Children with Speech and Language Difficulties, Luton (and acknowledging ideas from 'Word Play: language activities for young children' by Trevor Bryan and Sheila Wolfendale, published by David Fulton Publishers/NASEN)

