



ANIMAL PLAY

Suitable for 16 - 36 months



What you will need:

- Printed animal Cards
- Card
- Paint
- String
- Scissors

What you do:

1. Create an animal mask with your child; ask them what animal they would like to be.
2. Using card cut out the size of the mask needed for your child and cut out holes for the eyes. You can also make two little snips for the nose if required.
3. Let your child paint their mask, you will need to support them with the finishing touches.
4. Let this dry.
5. Make two small holes either side of the mask and thread string through them and tie a small knot to secure the string to the mask.
6. Let your child wear their mask and pretend to be the chosen animal. You could wear your mask too if you made one.
7. Make the noise of the animal and move how the animal would for your child to copy. If your child is slightly older ask them what noise the animal makes and ask them to show you how the animal moves. For example, stomping like an Elephant, jumping like a frog, slithering like a snake and so on.
8. Ask your child about the different colours of each animal and talk about where they live to enhance their understanding of the world.

This activity is great for the development of your child's Physical development as they are encouraged to paint their mask supporting fine motor skills. They are also encouraged to move around in a variety of ways, building upon their gross motor skills. This will also support the development within Communication and Language through encouraging your child to build upon their vocabulary and answer simple questions.