

Animal Moves



Activity: Children take turns choosing an animal move and rolling a numeral cube to determine how many times the class repeats the move.

Objective

The child will participate in a group gross motor activity.

Targeted Standards

I. Physical Development

I.B.a.1. Demonstrates use of large muscles for movement, position, strength and coordination

http://www.floel.org/standardsresource/standards.html#d=I&a=four_year_olds_fd

Checking for Understanding

Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by: participating in the group gross motor activity and duplicating each action.

Scaffolding

- To decrease the difficulty of the activity, limit the number of animal cards used.
- To increase the difficulty of this activity, challenge children to create new animal moves.

Extensions

- Provide a numeral cube, invite a child to roll it, and direct the children to repeat the activity the corresponding number of times.
- Place the animal cards in a bag and bring them to the playground. Invite children to “move like the animals” outside.

Materials Needed

Animal pictures or drawings

Large index cards (to mount the pictures on)

Glue

Marker

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Procedures

1. Print or draw pictures of the following animals: bird, cat, crab, snake, bunny, flamingo, penguin, horse, elephant, and alligator.
2. Glue each picture to a large index card and write the following verbs at the bottom of the corresponding picture: *flap* (bird), *stretch* (cat), *crawl* (crab), *slither* (snake), *hop* (bunny), *balance* (flamingo), *waddle* (penguin), *stomp* (elephant), and *chomp* (alligator).
3. Explain to the children that they will be moving like animals.
4. Introduce each animal and corresponding movement.
5. Invite a child to choose an animal card and direct the class to repeat the movement .

Bird – Stretch your arms out to the side and move up and down as if flying.

Cat – Get on hands and knees with arms out straight and fingers outstretched. Arch back and shoulders.

Crab – Lay on your back and push yourself up onto your hands and feet. Crawl backwards.

Snake – Lay flat on your tummy with your arms straight and close to your body and your legs straight and close together. Rock your shoulders and hips back and forth and slither like a snake.

Bunny – Squat down with your knees bent and your hands on the floor then leap up and land in the original position.

Flamingo – Stand on one foot while holding the other foot up behind you. Stretch your other arm out front to help you balance.

Penguin – Place your arms down by your side and close to your body. Move your weight from foot to foot while taking small steps.

Elephant – Place your arms together and clasp your hands to create a trunk. Move your “trunk from side to side as you stomp your feet.

Alligator – Use your arms to make a big alligator mouth in front of you. Open it and close it.