

Listening Activities for you and your child

Go on a Listening Walk

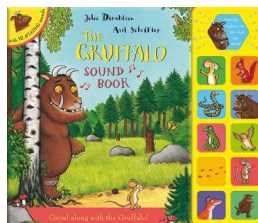
This is a listening activity that can take place indoors or outdoors. Remind the children about the things that good listeners do (e.g. keep quiet, have ears and eyes ready). Encourage your child to listen attentively to the sounds around them. Talk about the different sounds they can hear. The children could use 'cupped ears' or make big ears on headbands to wear as they go on the listening walk. After the children have enjoyed a listening walk indoors or outdoors, make a list of all the sounds they can remember.

You could try recording the sounds which you hear on your listening walk and play them back later. Can your child still identify the sounds they have heard?



Share Sound Stories:

Share stories with sound buttons e.g. The Gruffalo and encourage your child to describe the sounds they hear e.g. What does the sound of the squirrel/owl/snake make you think about? How does the snake sound different to the owl? (e.g. perhaps it is a softer/ quieter sound).



Alliteration:

Learning about alliteration supports children in tuning in to initial sounds, the first step towards segmenting the sounds in simple words (Fred talk s-a-t).

Sound Box

Make collections of objects with names beginning with the same sound e.g. ssssnake, ssssock, ssssausage. Show the objects one at a time to your child emphasising the initial sound.

Play Digging for Treasure:

You will need a large bucket or tray of sand / lentils or salt.

Collect two sets of objects. Each set of objects must have names beginning with the same initial sound e.g. 's' (sock, superhero, snake) and 'r' (rocket, rabbit, robot). Bury the objects in the bucket of sand. As your child uncovers the treasure, group the objects by their initial sound. Recite the entire set of objects each time e.g. 'now you have found a ssssnake, a ssssock and a ssssuperhero'.



