

Animal Pairs Game

- Print off the pages of picture cards and fold back so each card has an animal picture on one side and the 'Animal Families' writing on the back.

This game works well with pairs of children at first, then small groups if they are able to co-operate. Begin by showing the children the pictures on the cards and asking them to group them into sets; 4 cows, 4 pigs etc. Point out the differences/ similarities between the images. Give them a card each and put the rest of the cards face down on the table. Ask them to take it in turns to turn a card over and see if it matches their family. If it does, they can pick it up, if not, they have to replace it. Use this activity as an opportunity to talk about their own families.

Extending and Varying Children's Learning.

- Encourage children to make their own animal family cards by collecting their own pictures and putting them onto cards.
- Older children can extend the game by playing the equivalent of Happy Families by asking others if they have any of their family of animals. To work best, more than 5 sets of cards are needed, 10-13 works best.
- Play a 'Roll a Dice' game by getting the children to take the number of animals the dice shows and adding them up.
- Use the cards as a language prompt by giving a child a card and asking them to describe to the other children the animal with clues without mentioning the name of the animal.



Animal Families



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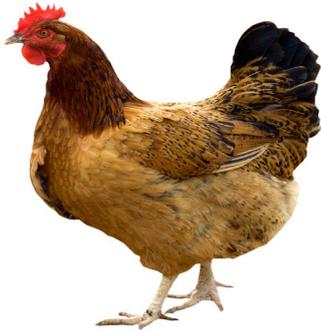
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