

Hide and Seek

Play hide and seek with a favourite toy or teddy



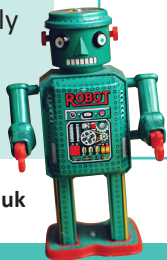
You will need

- Teddy bear or toys



! Why this activity is important

- Listening and following instructions are key skills in becoming an effective communicator.
- Hide and seek provides lots of opportunities for children to listen carefully to, follow and provide instructions.



Playing together

- Ask your child to choose a toy or teddy to hide.
- Explain that you are going to play hide and seek together and that means the toy is put in a hiding place and we have to find it.
- Practise putting your hands over your eyes together and waiting until you hear 'I'm ready!' to open your eyes.
- When your child is finding the teddy, you could help your child by saying...

Where is it? You are nearby.

Yes, you have found it! It was under the cushion.

- On the next turn, your child could hide the toy and you have to find it.



! Why this activity is important

- A storybag makes reading more fun and memorable and helps stimulate language development.

Fill a bag with props from your child's favourite story



You will need

- Your child's favourite book(s) and appropriate props
- Bag, box or basket



Playing together

- Choose together which book or books you want to make your storybag for.
- Look through the pictures included in the book to decide which props you are going to add to your storybag.
- Go on a hunt around the house to look for them and collect them in your bag, box or basket.
- Use the props to retell the story and act out sections of the story.
- You can discuss your child's favourite part of the story and ask your child questions about the characters and plot.



Kitchen Band

Find lots of pots and pans to bang!

You will need

- Pots, pans and tins
- Spoons (metal, wooden, large and small)
- Whisk, potato masher, brushes



! Why this activity is important

- Exploring sounds encourages active listening, this helps a child's communication development.
- Playing with mouth sounds works children's muscles in their mouth, which helps their speech development.



Playing together

- Choose together the things you are going to use for your instruments.
- Pick up a spoon and show your child what to do and then give them time to enjoy creating sounds with different objects.

Wow! That's a really loud bang!

How quietly can we tap the pan with the little spoon?

- You could start a 'copy me' game where you bang a pan a number of times, then your child copies. '1,2,3 bang, bang, bang. Your go...1,2,3 bang, bang, bang.'
- You can also try creating other sounds with your teeth, lips and tongue instead of the objects. 'What noise can you make with your lips?'