

Activity Lesson Plan

Willow Class

Date: Tuesday 7th April 2020

Activity Title: African Animals – Initial Sounds

Learning Intention:

- To listen and say the initial sounds of the words.

Links to EYFS: Literacy: Writing:

- Hears and says the initial sound in words.
- Links sounds to letters, naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet.

Activity Overview: Name African animals and identify the beginning sound in each of the words.

Resources:

- Printed out and pre-cut animal cards and letters (if the printer is unavailable, work directly on the computer)
- Printed out letters for tracing (extension)
- Printed out colouring in letters (challenge)

Key vocabulary:

Sound, rhino, warthog, cricket, monkey, hippo, elephant, tiger, lion, zebra, giraffe.

ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION (including key questions)

Introduction:

- Remind your child about the story of *Giraffes Can't Dance* and encourage them to remember as many animals as possible. Give them some clues if needed.

*What animals were there in the story? How many can you remember?

*There was an animal with spots/stripes? Do you remember what it's called?

*Do you remember the animal that starts with the z-z-z... (say the sound of the letter, not its name)?

Main Activity:

*Note: There are two variations of cards provided. One set of cards with written words, for the children who are beginning to learn the sounds and letters and the other set with three letters, for the children who are already familiar with the sounds and letters.

Cards with written words

- Lay out the animal cards on the table (or show them on the computer screen) and tell your child that all these animals were in the story.
- Explain to your child that they will name the animals and say what sound they can hear at the beginning. Model the activity with the first animal, verbalising what you are doing. **This is a monkey. M-m-m monkey.**
- Point at the red letter on the card and sound it out saying **m-m-m for monkey.**
- Ask your child to pick an animal and repeat the activity. If they find it tricky, support them by emphasising the initial sound.
- Ask your child to find the letter that matches the red letter.

*Great job, you've found another m-m-m for monkey.



Cards with three letters

- Lay out the animal cards on the table (or show them on the computer screen) and tell your child that all these animals were in the story.
- Explain to your child that they will name the animals, say what sound they can hear at the beginning and find the letter that makes that sound. Model the activity with the first animal, verbalising what you are doing. **This is a rhino. R-r-r rhino. This is the letter that makes the 'r' sound.**
- Ask your child to pick an animal and repeat the activity. If needed, help them by



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emphasising the initial sound or by sounding out the three letters on the card.

- *What type of animal is this?
- *Can you tell me what sound you hear at the beginning?
- *Can you find the letter that makes this sound?
- *Can you show me the animal that starts with 'z'?

Challenge:

- Play the game of *I Spy With My Little Eye* with the initial sounds. *I spy with my little eye something that starts with the b sound.*
- Look around and search for things beginning with the same sound, e.g. b-b-baby, b-b-book, b-b-banana.
- Let your child colour in the animals that are in the shape of their beginning sound. (template provided)

Additional ways to support your child:

Hearing the beginning sound of words is a challenging skill. If your child finds it tricky, support them by emphasising the sound and giving them lots of examples.

Extension:

Invite your child to trace the letters after they say the sounds. (template provided – or write the letters first for your child to trace over)