



Animals in the woods – guess and copy

AT A GLANCE



Place

Indoors or in a meadow



Key idea

Getting to know woodland animals and copying them with the whole body



Effort

Materials 10 min · Preparation 10 min



45 minutes



6–12 children



4–6 years



2 leaders



Materials

- ☐ Pictures of 8 woodland animals (hedgehog, squirrel, deer, fox, owl, woodpecker, wild boar, hare)
- ☐ optional: music to move to
- ☐ optional: devotion “God made everything” (Little ones)
- ☐ a large cloth



Schedule

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 0–5' | Arrival – Welcome circle: every child says their name and their favourite animal. |
| 5–15' | Guess the animal – A picture lies under the cloth. Uncover it bit by bit until the children guess the animal. |
| 15–30' | Animals in the woods – Movement game: the leader calls out an animal and everyone moves like it. |
| 30–40' | Devotion – Short devotion: God made all the animals. |
| 40–45' | Closing – In the circle: every child may act out their favourite animal once more. |



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How it works – simply explained

- 1 The leader calls out an animal and everyone copies it.
- 2 **Hedgehog:** curl up small and roll. **Hare:** hop. **Owl:** fly with your arms and call "twit-twoo".
- 3 **Deer:** creep on tiptoe. **Woodpecker:** tap with your finger. **Wild boar:** grunt and stomp.
- 4 When the leader says "The fox is asleep!", everyone lies very still on the floor.
- 5 Anyone who wants to can call out an animal themselves.

 **Example:** "I'll only show you the long ears ... Who is it? That's right, the hare! And what does the hare do? Hop, hop, hop!"

Safety

- Enough space: move chairs and tables to the side.
- No child has to join in – watching is fine too.
- Outdoors: check the meadow for glass and dog mess beforehand.

Variations

- Look for real animal tracks outdoors.
- Play animal sounds on a phone and guess them.

Something to think about

Which animal do you think God made the funniest?