

## SOCIAL

### What Pet am I?

- Talk with your group about popular pets, such as dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, fish, and turtles, snakes etc.
- Ask the children if they have a pet.
- Discuss movements and sounds made by the various pets.
- Then let your children take turns pretending to be a pet and acting out how this pet moves and “speaks”.
- Have the other children try to guess what type of pet, the child is mimicking.
- If necessary, before each child’s turn, whisper a type of pet and a few of its actions into the child’s ear.
- Continue the game until everyone has had a turn.

Variation: if the children are too shy to act something out then you can be the one acting out the animal and they can all guess.

**Target:** peer interaction

### Where's the Bone?

All the children are sitting in circle. One stands away from the group and counts to ten. Meanwhile one of the children in the circle is given a bone to sit on. . All the children chant: Doggie, Doggie where's your bone, somebody stole it from your home. Guess who? Then the child that has been counting gets three guesses find out which child it is. Then the cycle continues until everyone has had a turn.

Variation: to make the activity more active have all of the children sitting with their eyes shut as one child hides the bone. Then all of the other children try to find it.

**Target:** cooperation

### Dog, Dog, Cat!

Have the children sit in a circle. 1 child crawls around the outside of the circle and touches each child on the back saying, “Dog” “Dog” Dog”. When the child touches a child on the head and says “Cat” that child crawls around the circle in the opposite direction of the other child crawling and the first child back to the open spot is safe and the other child crawls around tapping the children on the back.

**Target:** taking turns

## PHYSICAL

### *Gross Motor*

### Movement Game

Print out different types of pet food prints (cat, dog, bird) a tape them to the floor Have the children move from footprint to footprint.

**Target:** balance



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### Dog Tricks

Have the children pretend they are dogs

Have each of the children take a turn to be the dog trainer. Let the trainer demonstrate a trick and then have all of the dogs repeat the trick.

Example of tricks: roll over, fetch, sit, lie down, jump over a small hurdle, shake a paw etc.

**Target:** co-ordination

### Five Little Kittens

Five little kittens standing in a row

They nod their heads to the children, so.

They run to the left, they run to the right,

They stand up and stretch in the bright sunlight.

Along comes a dog who's in for some fun,

M-e-o-w, see the kittens run.

**Target:** balance

### Pet Yoga Poses

<http://www.pinkoatmeal.com/pet-themed-yoga/>

**Target:** coordination

### Doggy Hole

Children dig in the sand or snow to hide an object. Children then attempt to find their friends' objects. This can be done at a sand table or outdoors in the sandbox, snow or rocks at the playground.

**Target:** coordination

### *Fine Motor*

#### Play dough Pets

Set out some homemade or bought play dough for your children. Any color is fine, but you may want to set out brown, white and black dough for pets.

Show your children how to roll their dough into balls, then poke and pull them into shapes that resemble favorite pets. You can set out googly eyes, feathers, and plastic tools for the children to make imprints on the play dough.

Have children display their pet shapes on small pieces of paper on a display table labeled "Our Pets". **Target:** grasping

#### Feather Painting

<http://munchkinsandmoms.com/feather-painting/>

**Target:** eye hand coordination

#### Popsicle Stick Pet House

What You Need:

- Popsicle Sticks
- Construction Paper
- Glue

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- Paint (and perhaps sponges for painting)

### What You Do:

- Give your children the items and encourage them to glue together the sticks to make a pet house shape. Then let them cover it with construction paper and paint it to make a great pet house!

**Target:** Fine Motor

## Pet of Many Shapes

### What You Need:

- Construction Paper
- Glue
- Paint (and perhaps sponges for painting)

### What You Do:

- Give your children precut shapes of different colors and have them create their pets by gluing the shapes together however they want. They can then use paint to finalize the masterpiece.

**Target:** Fine Motor

## INTELLECTUAL

### *Cognitive*

**Pet Sort** (you can get the pictures from magazines or print them from on line)

<http://jen-peacefulparenting.blogspot.ca/2011/10/montessori-monday.html>

**Target:** sorting

### **Pet Food Analysis**

Take a small amount of different kinds of pet food (dog, cat, bird, fish, rabbit food etc.) and place it into Ziploc baggies let your children take turns looking at and feeling each baggies. Then talk about what kind of pet would eat this food. When the children identify them write the name of the animal and place a picture of it (or sticker) on it of one (i.e. picture of dog).

**Target:** matching

### **Where Does the Animal Go?**

Create three areas, farm animals, zoo animals, and pets (You can use tri-fold project boards, separate sheets of poster boards, or pictures of a barn, house, and zoo). Using small pictures of several different animals let the children place the animals where they should go. Remember some animals can go multiple places. This allows you to discuss the differences with the children.

**Target:** sorting

### **Minnows**

Bring in minnows or tadpoles and let your children watch as they grow.

**Target:** observing

**Pet Color Match Game** (print from this website) **Target:** matching

<http://www.kidsparkz.com/pets.html>

**Language**

**Five Little Puppies**

Five little puppies were playing in the sun.  
This one saw a rabbit, and he began to run.  
This one saw a butterfly, and he began to race.  
This one saw a cat, and he began to chase.  
This one tried to catch his tail, and he went round and round.  
This one was so quiet, he never made a sound.

**Target:** Rhyming

**Little Puppies**

Little puppy one fell asleep in the sun.  
Little puppy two likes to play with my shoe.  
Little puppy three always kisses me.  
Little puppy four ran out the door.  
Little puppy five watched a crow dive.  
Little puppy six likes to do little tricks.  
Little puppy seven counted stars in heaven.  
Little puppy eight jumped over the gate.  
Little puppy nine sat down to dine.  
Little puppy ten fell asleep in the den.  
Can you count the puppies?  
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10.

**Target:** number recognition

**My Kitten** tune: Sing a Song of Sixpence

I have a little kitten,  
She's black and white and gray.  
When I try to cuddle her,  
She always wants to play,  
So I drag a piece of yarn  
Across the kitchen floor.  
She thinks it is a little mouse  
To chase right out the door.

**Target:** Rhyming

**I Had A Little Poodle**

I had a little poodle  
His coat was silver grey  
One day I thought I'd bathe him  
To wash the dirt away.  
I washed my little poodle  
Then dried him with a towel.  
My poodle seemed to like his bath  
He didn't even growl.

**Target:** vocabulary

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### **Little Kitty**

Kitty, kitty, kitty my little one so pretty, pretty

I'll hug my little one right now

Now let me hear how you meow (Lead the children in meowing)

**Target:** Repetition

### **How Much Is That Doggy In The Window?**

How much is that doggy in the window? (bark)

The one with the wiggly tail.

How much is that doggy in the window? (bark)

I do hope that doggy is for sale!

How much is that Kitty in the window? (meow)

The one that purrs so

How much is that Kitty in the window? (meow)

I do hope that Kitty is for sale!

How much is that Bunny in the window? (hop)

The one that goes hip-ity-hop

How much is that Bunny in the window? (hop)

I do hope that Bunny is for sale!

**Target:** repetition

### **Where is the Kitty?**

A Kitten is hiding under a chair.

I looked and looked for her everywhere.

Under the table and under the bed

I looked in the corner and when I said,

Come Kitty, come, Kitty, here's milk for you.

Kitty came running and calling "Meow, meow

**Target:** vocabulary

### **The Veterinarian**

(Sung to: Oh, My Darlin)

Bring your dogs, bring your cats,

Bring your hamsters one by one.

I take care of the animals,

I'm a veterinarian.

**Target:** vocabulary

## **CREATIVE**

### **Feed the Birds Sensory Bin**

<http://modernpreschool.com/baby-bird-eats-worm-fine-motor-sensory/>

**Target:** sensory

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**Wash the Pet Sensory Bin (the example uses plastic dogs but you can use all types of animals)**

<http://www.pre-kpages.com/pet-sensory-activity-wash-dog/>

**Target:** sensory

### **Sensory Bird Seed**

Put bird seed in your sand table and let your children shovel and play with it.

**Target:** sensory

### **Bubble Wrap Snake**

<http://www.craftymorning.com/paper-plate-snake-craft-using-rolling-pin/>

**Target:** creativity

### **Lint Guinea Pigs**

**What You Need:**

- Glue
- Dryer Lint (Ask your parents to send some)
- Old Socks (clean)
- Pompoms
- felt
- Paint (and perhaps sponges for painting)

**What You Do:**

- Your children can use the lint to glue onto stuffed socks. Add pompom eyes and felt ears and paint to make a unique and cute guinea pig

**Target:** sensory

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUDaR7XmA5w>

### **Dog Bone Prints**

**What You Need:**

- Paper
- Paint

**What You Do:**

- Take real dog bones and let the children dip them into any color paint they want and print them on paper.

**Target:** creativity

## **EMOTIONAL**

### **BOOKS**

#### **Book on Pets**

- National Geographic Kids Everything Dogs- All the Canine by Becky Baines

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- National Geographic Kids Everything Pets- Furry Facts, Photos and Fun Unleashed by James Spears
  - Jenny's Own Puppy by Martha Barnes
  - Just Me and My Puppy by Mercer Mayer
  - Touch and Feel Pets
  - The Perfect Pet by Margie Palatini
  - Should we Have Pets by Sylvia Lollis
  - I Wanna Iguana by Karen Kaufman Orioff
  - Can I Bring my Pterodactyl to School Ms. Johnson? by Lois Grambling
- Target:** self-expression

### Turtle Activity

Here are 2 separate turtle activities. The one using bingo dabbers may be easier for the younger children than using the tissue paper version. **Target: self-expression**

<http://gluedtomycraftsblog.com/2014/07/paper-plate-turtle-kid-craft.html>

<http://www.funcrafts4kids.com/Pages/paperplateturtle.aspx>

### Squishy Fishy Aquarium (Ziploc bags, foam fish, food coloring)

<http://www.teachpreschool.org/2011/10/24/making-squishy-fishy-aquariums-in-preschool/>

**Target:** independence

*At the bottom of the instructions for this activity there is a picture of some neat Jell-O cup fish snacks.*

### Paper Plate Aquarium

#### What You Need:

Tissue Paper  
Googly Eyes  
Yarn  
Paint  
Glitter  
Paper Plates  
Plastic Wrap

#### What You Do:

- Give the kids a paper plate and have them create an aquarium scene on the top side of the plate. Then over that plate tape a second plate that you have cut out a hole at the top (can cover with Plastic wrap). This makes it look like your looking into an aquarium.
- Target:** independence

## Recipes

**Make Dog Bones** Need: 1/2 C peanut butter, 1/2 C dry milk, 1 T. honey, 2 T. graham cracker crumbs, finely crushed. Mix in bowl: 1/2 C peanut butter, 1/2 C dry milk. Add: 1 T. honey and mix very well. Divide into 6 balls. Mold each piece into shape of dog bone. Sprinkle graham cracker crumbs on both sides

**Target:** cooperation

## **Bunny Bread**

[https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/220769/bunny-bread/?internalSource=streams&referringId=1654&referringContentType=Recipe%20Hub&clickId=st\\_trending\\_s](https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/220769/bunny-bread/?internalSource=streams&referringId=1654&referringContentType=Recipe%20Hub&clickId=st_trending_s)

**Target:** independence



## **Snappy Turtle Cookies**

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/10235/snappy-turtle-cookies/?internalSource=hub%20recipe&referringId=1654&referringContentType=Recipe%20Hub>

**Target:** taking turns

