

Valentine's Day is on February 14, 2021. Feel free to add any Valentine's activities that you want instead of the pet activities.

SOCIAL

What Pet Am I?

- Talk with your group about popular pets, such as dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, fish, and turtles, snakes etc.
- 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?

Cut out a bone shape piece of paper with each child's name on it. Hide the "bones" throughout the play area and have each child find their own bone.

Target: cooperation

Favorite Pet Graph

Prepared a graph in which you print animal's names (or pictures) on the bottom. At group time discuss pets and let the kids put a doggie bone (or other pet shape) for their favorite pet. This allows the kids to easily see which pets were favored and which pet was least favored.

Targets: sharing ideas

Pet Video – this is a short video which shows other pets besides a cat or dog.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93U4fvaYCU>

Target: peer discussion

PHYSICAL

Gross Motor

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, run, 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.

PETS- February 2021

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

Pet Toss

Put out an assortment of stuffed animals. Have the children take turns tossing them into a bucket or container. Wash the stuffed animals after the activity.

Target: coordination

Fine Motor

Play dough Pets

Give each child their own portion of playdough as well as some googly eyes, pipe cleaners, feathers etc. to make their own pet. **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
- 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)

PETS- February 2021

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. Make sure the pictures are laminated so they can be wiped down.

Target: sorting

Pet Match Game (print from this website) Laminate so that it can be wiped down. **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.

PETS- February 2021

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

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

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

Wash the Pet Sensory Bin (the example uses plastic dogs but you can use all types of animals). Give each child their own container to wash their pets.

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

Target: sensory

Bubble Wrap Snake (you can buy bubble wrap at Staples)

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

Target: creativity

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

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

Target: sensory

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

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
- 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.

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

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

Target: self-expression

PETS- February 2021

Paper Plate Aquarium

What You Need:

Tissue Paper
Googly Eyes
Yarn
Paint
Glitter
Paper Plates
Plastic Wrap

What You Do:

- Give each child 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

Rainbow Fish

Read the story Rainbow Fish

Materials needed: paper cut in the shape of a fish, bright colored paints, paint brush, googly eyes and one piece of tinfoil.

Target: confidence

