

RAA RAA the noisy lion

RHYTHM!

Raa Raa loves moving to a jungle beat and along with his friends finds that a good rhythm can make a sound more memorable. Raa Raa enjoys looking for new and noisy things to do!

Why Rhythm?

The ability to keep and recognise a steady beat is important for the development of speech. A sense of rhythm enables children to pick up patterns in spoken words and phrases – skills important for speech development, but also when learning to read.

Engaging children with simple clapping rhythms which accompany poems, rhymes and songs is a fun way to get them started. Remember there is rhythm all around us; build in opportunities to find rhythm wherever you are!

- For EYFS early learning goals covered by this sheet see your Practitioners Guide. For curriculum links for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales go to www.raaraathenoisylion.com

CREATE AND MAKE

Raa Raa Tambourines

Musical instruments are a great way of introducing the concept of rhythm to your group. Raa Raa's friend Hufty is a great musician and loves to entertain his friends with his music. Make your very own rhythmic instruments to move, sing and clap to, they can create a lovely sound and look great too!

What to do:

- 1 Ask the children to decorate the underside of 2 paper plates by drawing Raa Raa's lion face onto one and colouring or painting the other one a bright colour.
- 2 Stick the two plates together using sticky tape to create a 'UFO' shape.
- 3 Punch holes at regular intervals around the edge of the plates and start to feed a piece of ribbon through the holes.
- 4 As you feed the ribbon through, lace a few beads, foil discs or bells onto the ribbon at regular intervals so they clatter together.
- 5 Once you get all the way around the plate tie the two ends of the ribbon together securely.
- 6 You could add more decorative items to your tambourines, try adding natural decoration like leaves and flowers to reflect Raa Raa's jungle home!
- 7 Give your tambourine a special shake and hear the jingly jangly sounds it makes!

What you need:

- Paper plates
- Colouring pencils, crayons or paints
- A selection of beads, foil bottle tops/discs or bells
- Sticky tape
- Hole punch
- Ribbon

MORE FUN THINGS TO DO

- Try using your tambourines to signify a change of topic, or for a 'Stop/Go' game. See if the children can listen out for the sound rather than your voice.
- When reading a story, have the children shake their tambourines when they hear a specific character mentioned – can they tap the tambourine to the rhythm of a name – big...bad...wolf?

SEEK AND EXPLORE *Sound Search*

Raa Raa loves to hunt out new sounds in the Jingly Jangly Jungle, find the rhythm all around you by taking the children outside and setting off on a sound search.

What to do:

- 1 Create a sound search sheet with pictures of different objects representing sounds they may hear – for example; a dog, a bird, a car, an aeroplane, people talking and radios playing music.
- 2 Ask the children to tick off the different sounds they hear. Did they hear any others to add to the sheet?
- 3 Encourage the children to walk on different types of surface and listen out for the different sounds made – for example: a gravel path, a sandy beach, soft grass, pavement flag stones and tarmac.
- 4 Describe the sounds you can hear and get the children to do the same – shoes on a pavement – clip clop, on a gravel path – crunch, crunch etc .
- 5 Once back in your setting ask the children what kinds of sounds they heard while out and about, see if the children can recreate any of the noises they heard.
- 6 Talk about where they heard the sounds to support more language development – in the trees, on the floor, up in the sky.

MORE FUN THINGS TO DO

Create a natural noises table where you can display things from nature and the world around us which can create sounds and rhythms. Leaves, seed pods, sticks, shells and conkers are all items you may find outside depending on the time of year, and can all create different sounds and rhythms.

Share with the children some natural noises which Raa Raa and his friends might hear in their home in the jungle – do they sound different to the noises we hear?

For more fun things to do with Raa Raa and his friends visit:

www.raaraathenoisylion.com

SAY AND PLAY *Rhythm Ripple*

Raa Raa's friend Zebby is a great listener. See how well the children in your setting can listen by playing this fun game to help develop understanding and recognition of rhythm and beats. This is a simple concept which can be made more and more complex to suit the understanding of your group.

How to play:

- 1 Sit in a circle with the children.
- 2 Explain that you will be starting a clapping beat and the children are going to copy the beat and pass it around the circle.
- 3 Start with something simple such as 2 slow claps followed by 3 quick claps.
- 4 Once you have demonstrated this beat ask the child next to you in the circle to copy what you have just done.
- 5 Pass the beat around the circle with each child copying the beat from the child before them.
- 6 If a child struggles with the beat join in with them to help them out.
- 7 Once you have successfully passed the beat all the way around the circle, start a new beat or select a child to start one for the group.

MORE FUN THINGS TO DO

Make your game more active by adding in a march and get the children to follow a leader around the room marching and clapping out the chosen beat – coordinating bodies, hands, listening skills and concentration is a real challenge!

Chose a leader and get them to “ask” other children to join in the game by clapping out the rhythm of their name ...Is..a..bel, Wal..eed, Josh..u..a, Nic..o..la, Mark, An..drew.

Watch *Ooo Ooo's Jungle Drums* on the DVD within this pack and listen to Raa Raa's beat. See if the children can clap out Raa Raa's beat for themselves.