



Sounds All Around

Indoor/Outdoor • 5–25 minutes • Limited materials

Overview

Take a walk—or find a quiet place to sit—and listen to the sounds of nature.

Get Ready

Suggested Supplies

Nature provides all you need for this activity, though you can also bring:

- ✓ Bilingual printable sound cards with pictures and labels
- ✓ A phone or tablet with a bird sound ID app
- ✓ A blanket or towel for comfortable sitting
- ✓ Clipboards or notebooks for drawing or writing, with writing tools

Set up the Topic

Today, we're going to take a listening walk. That means we'll be extra quiet and use our ears to hear the sounds all around us—especially sounds made by nature. We'll match the sounds we hear to pictures, exploring new and familiar words in both English and Spanish.

At a Glance Steps

Step 1:

Find a quiet spot such as a park, yard, or playground to pause for a few minutes.

Step 2:

Listen carefully for 10–15 seconds at a time. Notice if the sounds you hear are loud or soft, near or far, and if you can identify them.

Step 3:

Optional: Use sound cards to match sounds to the plant, animal, or object that made them. Invite children to mimic the sounds they hear.



Step 4:

Reflect by sharing favorite, surprising, and unidentified sounds. Repeat the activity in different settings and seasons for a new experience each time!

Children Are Working On

Speaking and listening

Building vocabulary in one or two languages

Making connections between sounds and their sources

Practicing memory and matching skills

Regulating their body and emotions

Try This!



Before you head outside, explore which animals live in your area. Have children predict the sounds they might hear and create matching sound cards. Using their cards during the activity builds excitement and helps them remember what they discovered.