

TALK to me outside



THEME:
Listening Walk

- Listening walks provide opportunities for children to focus and tune into sounds around them.
- Young children learn words about what is happening around them at that time, follow their lead and tell them the words for objects or experiences they are interested in at that moment.
- Learning to recognise a sound we hear is an important skill.
- Naming and describing what you can see and hear on a listening walk will enable children to develop their vocabulary.

What to do....

- Listening walks can take place anywhere -in the garden, at the local park, or on the way to the shops.
- Talk about all the things that good listeners do. We need to keep quiet, have our ears ready to listen, and our eyes ready to look for clues.
- Go on a listening walk and take time to listen to the sounds.
- Comment on what you can hear e.g. 'Can you hear the dog barking?' as this draws the child's attention to the sound.
- Copy and recreate the sounds that you can hear together.
- Whilst on your listening walk try recording some of the sounds on your phone or take pictures of the sound sources and use these later on to recall all the things you heard.
- Try using a gesture to cue your child to start listening again when their attention drifts away (e.g. say their name and place your hand to your ear)

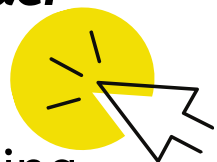
Step it up and make it more challenging



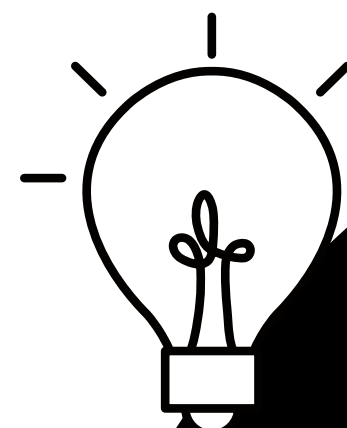
- Set the challenge of who can hear the sound first (e.g. 'who will be the first to hear a dog barking?')
- Expand on what the child says by adding a word or an idea (e.g. child says 'it's a dog barking' and you respond 'yes, it's a dog barking loudly or 'yes, the dog is barking because.....').
- Talk about the features of the sounds (e.g. loud or quiet, short or long, near or far away)
- Play a game to recall all the sounds you heard on your listening walk. "I went on a listening walk and I heard a bird tweeting", "I went on a listening walk and I heard a bird tweeting and a baby crying"

Sung to the tune of "I hear thunder"

To listen to the tune click [here](#)



Are you listening, Are you listening
Lots of sounds, Lots of sounds
Listen carefully now, Listen carefully now
What's that sound? What's that sound



Developing good attention and listening skills is crucial for child development.

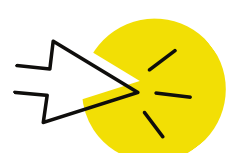
Good attention and listening skills help with social skills, understanding language, following instructions, learning to communicate, and all aspects of learning.

Babies and young children develop attention and listening skills through frequent opportunities to interact and play with others around them.

Children need to learn to listen!

"The Listening Walk" by Paul Showers

Join the little girl on a listening walk with her Dad and her dog. Lots to see and hear in the world around us. Join in with recreating the sounds on the journey (e.g. buzzing bees, water sprinklers, a baby crying and much more).



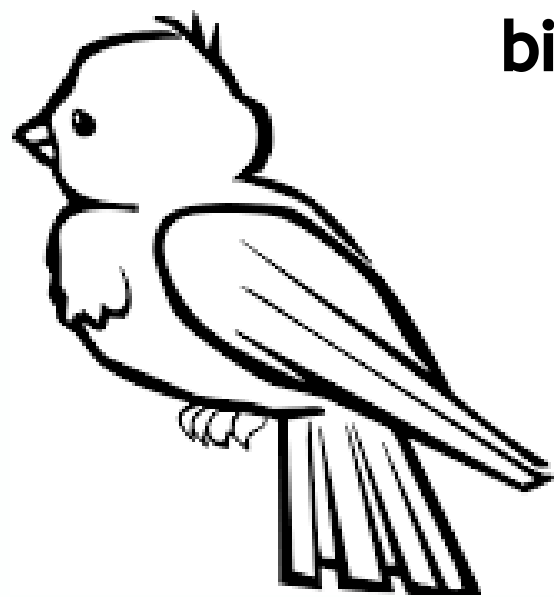
www.youtube.com/watch?v=uCs66HaouFU



TALK to me outside

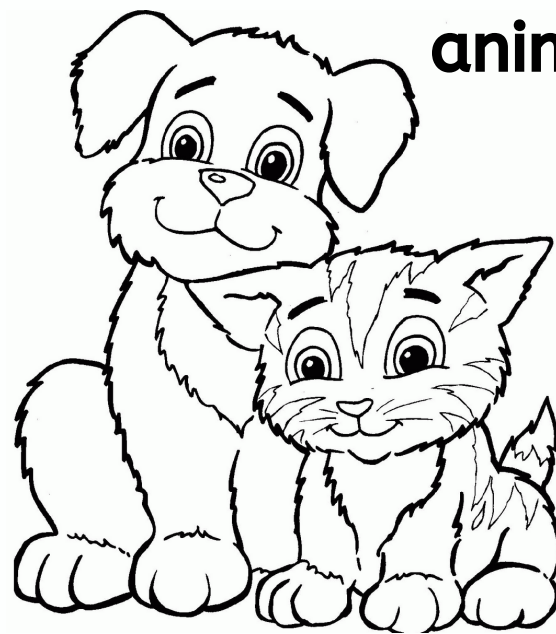
We've left a space for you to draw/write about other sounds that you hear on your listening walk

Use this activity board as a way of recording the different sounds you can hear on your listening walk



bird

e.g. bird tweeting



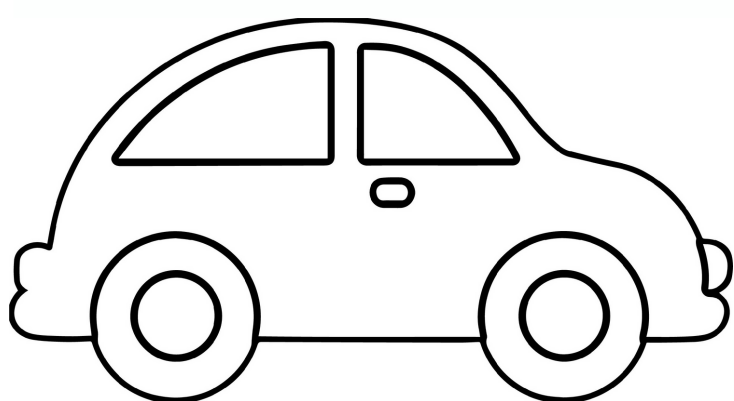
animal

e.g. dog barking



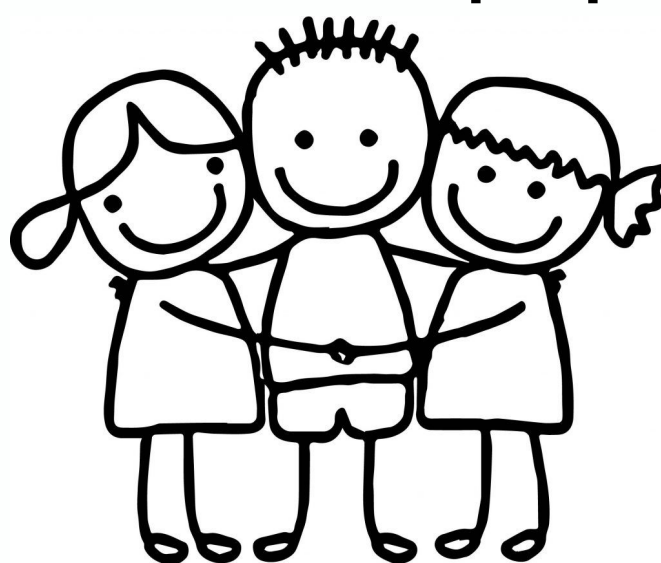
weather

e.g. wind whistling



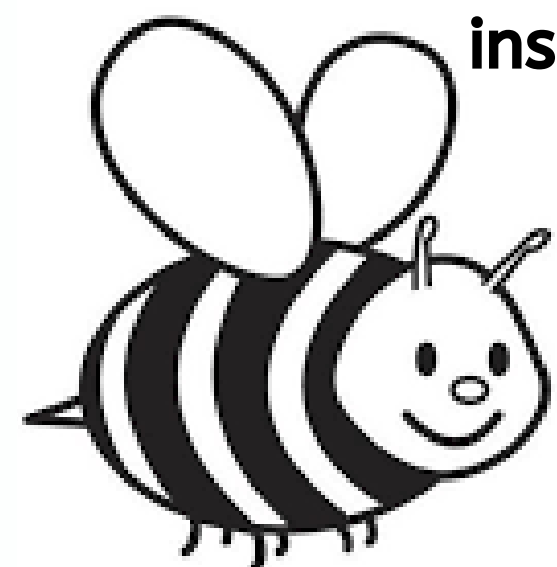
vehicle

e.g. car driving past



people

e.g. people laughing



insect

e.g. bee buzzing

Draw or write about the other sounds you hear on your listening walk

Listening ears - cut out ears and stick to a paper crown

