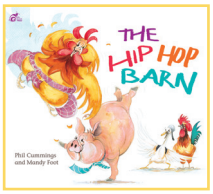
raising literacy AUSTRALIA

ACTIVITY TIME



The Hip Hop Barn

Author, Phil Cummings and Illustrator, Mandy Foot

Phil Cummings has written an hilarious rollicking story that follows cheeky farmyard animals and their antics when the farmer goes to bed. Sharing stories that rhyme is a wonderful way to make them lively and enjoyable. Reading silly stories together with your child is a great way to play together. Children learn so much through play and even a few minutes of fun together makes a difference.

The Hip Hop Barn Animal Faces

Adult supervision is essential. Involve and talk with your child as much as possible.

You will need:

- The Hip Hop Barn Animal Face templates
- Pop sticks or rolled cardboard
- Crayons
- Sticky tape.

Instructions:

1. Colour in template – optional.
2. Cut out faces
3. Stick faces to pop sticks.

Use the puppet faces in lots of different ways:

- Hold a farmyard disco and dance to music
- Ask each other questions to guess the animals
- Hide an animal mask and play hide and seek
- Let your child take the lead and make up their own game.

Dance and move together

Play Old MacDonald had a Farm or other songs for your farmyard disco. Music and movement are fun, and a wonderful way to learn more about rhythm, energy, noise and sounds.

Clap hands and stomp feet while you count to the beat. Move your bodies quickly and slowly, up, down and around. These simple activities are using play to support your child's learning about STEM concepts.

Dancing is a great way to develop children's muscles and coordination too. Big movements build their big muscles (gross motor skills) and smaller movements help their control and coordination in areas such as fingers (fine motor skills).

Songs to sing

Old MacDonald Had A Farm, Dingle Dangle Scarecrow, and *Grandpa's Farm Song (https://youtu.be/7hpFWinSNEk)*

Key message

Children learn through being engaged and doing.

*You can introduce simple Science Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) concepts to children aged 2+ years through every day play.

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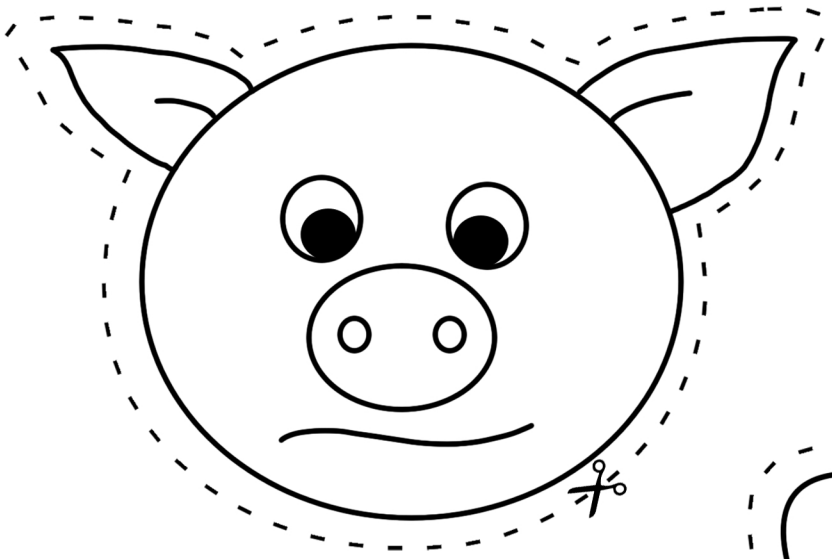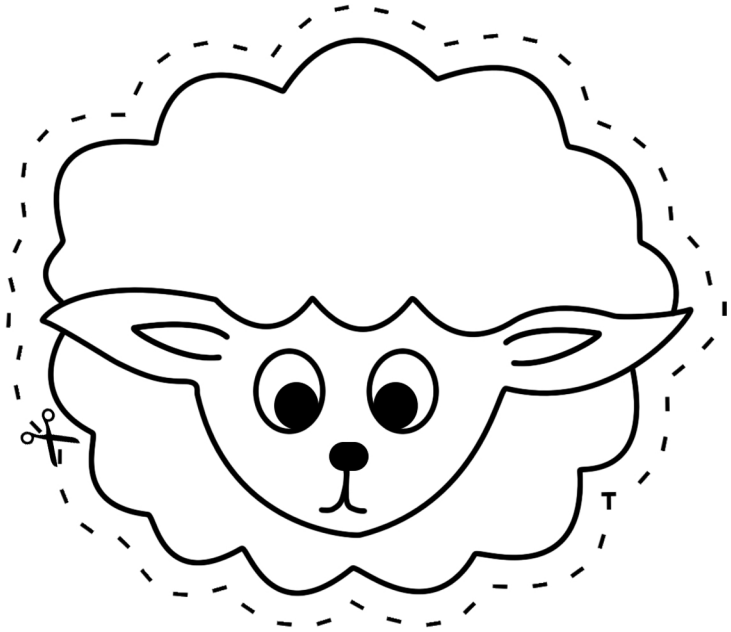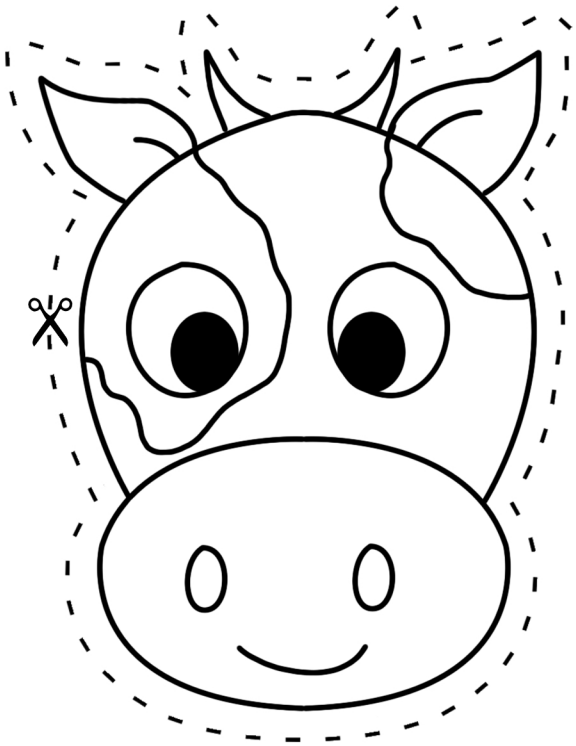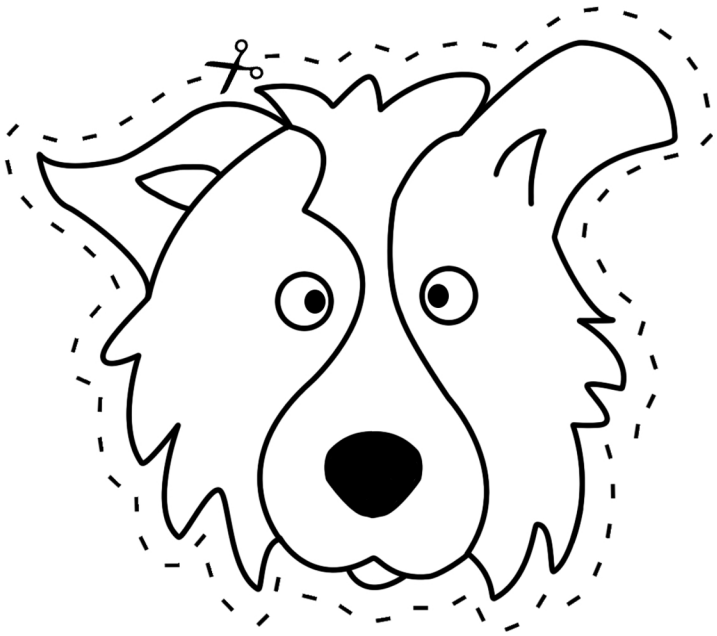
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