

Animal Acting



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Activity Name: Animal Acting

Ages: All ages.

Activity Energy: Medium

Length of time: 30 minutes

Number of Participants: 4 - 30

Indoor/Outdoor: Outdoor

Concept: This short activity mimics the game of charades gives participants the opportunity to observe and act out animal behaviour.

Materials Required: animal cards (optional)

Introduction:

Turning observation into action reinforces learning. This is a simple game allows students to display what they have observed by acting it out in a team setting. It is fun and educational.

Methods:

1. Have the participants break into groups of 2 or 3. Singles are fine if the group is small but usually more fun in groups.
2. Either tell each group what animal they will be acting out or have them pull an animal card out of a deck.
3. Give each group 5 minutes to practice in private. It is important that the other groups do not see or hear what they are planning.
4. Have the group sit somewhere that they can all see the 'stage'. Beach logs are perfect for seating.
5. Ask for one group to volunteer to be first.
6. The group stands at the front and acts out their animal. The first group to guess correctly is the next group to act. If they have already had a chance to act, then they choose another group to act.

Tips for Teachers:

- This is great as a summary activity. For example, if students have been exploring the intertidal zone, then all of the animals or creatures will be from that locale and students will be acting out sea cucumbers or anemones or crabs.
- A short discussion about the behaviour of the animal in each act can reinforce learning.

