

ANIMAL FAMILIES



Schamozzle



Resources
for
Teachers

IceBreaker /
Brain Break
Game

ABOUT THIS GAME

I've played this Animal Families with kids of all ages as a warm up activity in my drama classes usually associated with an animal theme. It would work well as:

- a starting activity to organise kids into working groups
- a transition, icebreaker or brain break activity
- a warm up for some work on animals, farms, listening, belonging, families

The game:

- Helps kids to listen to each other and experiment with the voice.
- Encourages co-operation and teamwork.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Preparation: Make copies of the animal card sheet. (The number of copies you make will depend on how big you want each group to be, how many groups you want and how many children are in the class). Laminate and cut into cards.
- Have children sit in a circle. Distribute randomly to each child an animal card. Children should be encouraged to keep their cards secret and not to make a sound while this is happening.
- Practise: Give children a minute to think of a sound that their animal makes. On a given signal, for a few seconds, everyone could practise simultaneously making their sounds.
- Ask children to stand up. When teacher says 'Find your family' everyone moves around the room trying to find the rest of their animal families (ie all the other pigs in the class).
- As children find each member of their family, they should link arms and walk around as a group making their sounds together.
- When the children think they have found everyone in their animal family they sit down together.
- Game ends when everyone has found their animal family.



Pig



Mouse



Monkey



Dog



Cow



Cat

Variation:

- For older kids in a safe open space you could try doing this activity with eyes closed or blindfolded.

Extension Ideas:

- Once they've found their groups, the kids in each animal family could agree on a sound which is repeated like a song/chant. They could be encouraged to listen to each other and build a soundscape. The teacher could act as a conductor bringing in different groups at different times and using different volumes.
- Each group could come up with a simple movement to accompany their animal sound and present these to the rest of the class.



Thanks so much for downloading this resource. If you like it, please let me know in the comments and follow me.

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