



Find an Animal Dance Partner

Help each animal find a partner for the dance.

Helps Your Child Grow



Initiative and Curiosity

Noticing that an animal has no dance partner and adding a doll or prop gives your child practice identifying what is missing and taking action to complete the scene.

Steps

- Invite an odd number of small animal figures or stuffed animals to an animal dance. Explain that every animal needs one partner before the dance can begin.
- Help your child pair the animals two by two and place each pair in the dance area.
- Before starting the music, ask, “Does every animal have a partner?” If needed, draw attention to the one left over: “This kitten is still waiting for a partner.”
- Give your child time to solve the problem. They might find another toy or offer to be the kitten’s partner.
- Once everyone has a partner, let your child decide how to start the music - by choosing a song or playing a toy instrument.
- Start the music and invite all the pairs to dance.

Tips

- Your child may notice during pairing that one animal has no dance partner. If they do not, use a question or gesture to draw attention to what is missing.
- Let your child start key parts of the pretend play when possible - for example, proposing the next step or finding a needed prop - so their ideas move the dance forward.

Observations

- Finds another doll or offers themselves as a dance partner for the kitten
- Quickly checks whether every figure has a partner