

Activity	Listening Walk		
Key:	Due the various abilities of our children we have graded some of the activities into different levels.	Contact details:	schools@cdssgroup.org.uk
Seeds	Your child may access different levels depending on the activity as well as their ability.		All Education Advocates access this email.
Saplings			Sarah Larkin (Cheshire West)
Trees			Becky Harris (Cheshire West)
			Yvonne Edwardson (Cheshire East)

Brief description of Activity

Listening skills are a very important skill to learn. This activity is a fun way to encourage children to listen carefully and to begin to think about the different sounds they hear around them.

Resources needed

Optional resources:
 Checklist of things you might hear on your walk – cars, insects, bells, voices, door slamming, buzzers, birds, aeroplane, footsteps etc.
 A mobile phone to record sounds that you hear to replay at a different time to see if children can recognise them.
 Map of the route you will take on your walk.

Activity: Seeds and Saplings

Listen to the story *The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers

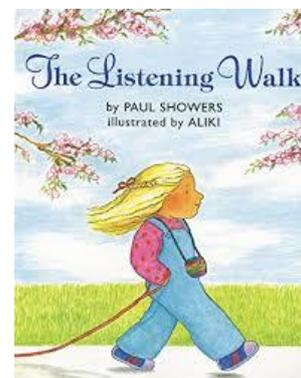
<https://youtu.be/uCs66HaouFU>

Below are some suggested questions you could ask your child about the book.

*What do you think this little girl might do on a **listening** walk? (listen for sounds)*

*What **sounds** do you **predict** she might she hear? Why do you think that?*

Do you think she will hear some of the same sounds you heard outside?



As you read, pause and ask questions such as,
Why doesn't the girl and her father talk when they go on their listening walk?
How does this help them listen?
What kind of voice do you think you will use when you go on a listening walk?
*(whisper, **soft**) Why?*

Ask your child to recall some of the sounds the girl hears on her listening walk. Encourage them to act out the sounds. If your child needs support remembering, go through the book page-by-page starting with the sound of the dog's feet. Ask, *What sound does the dog make?* *How does he make the sound?*

Go on a listening walk with your child explaining that you must walk quietly and listen carefully. Ask your child to listen for the sounds they can hear around them. If you hear something interesting stop for a moment and carry on listening. Did you hear any of the same sounds as in the story? Discuss with your child what they can hear. Can they try to make the same noise? Whoosh, brmmmm, chirp, etc.



Take a checklist with you to let your child tick off sounds as they hear them.

Use your mobile phone to try and capture some of the sounds you hear on your walk. When you get home replay the sounds and see if your child can remember what made them. To make it easier you could print out photographs from the internet of the things that made the sound, car, bird, door, insects etc or you could reuse the checklist if you took one with you on the walk.



There are some great listening games on you tube. The sound is played then the image is revealed. Below are some examples.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOKp_J9kvNM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li-oNQ2aTmc>

Activity extension: Trees

Make a listening map of your walk. Help your child to draw a rough map of your route including any specific details like your house, a local school or church etc. Ask your child to draw something simple on the map that represents the sounds they heard at various points.

Attachments:

N/A

Cheshire Downs Syndrome Support Group

Registered Charity Number 1146127.

Website address: www.cheshiredownssyndrome.com

Phone number: 07518 590300

Support us at : www.justgiving.com/cheshiredownssyndrome/raisemoney