

# E12: Animal Sorting

Lesson Objective: Using animal picture cards with one to four syllables, children will count the syllables in each animal name and sort the pictures into containers labelled with an animal picture whose name has the same number of syllables as the picture card.

## Materials & Preparation

- 4 boxes (shoeboxes or something similar in size)
- animal picture cards (includes word list)

Print out the animal picture cards and cut them apart. Tape the four animal cards from the first page, with names that contain different numbers of syllables — moose (1 syllable), panda (2), kangaroo (3), alligator (4) — to the ends of the four boxes (one picture for each box). Place the other picture cards in a stack, face down.

## Activity

Video: How to play Animal Sorting

Before you start the game, have your child identify the picture on the end of each box, count out the syllables, and figure out how many syllables are in each animal's name. He can determine this by using his two fingers under his chin to feel the syllables, or he can clap them out.

To start the game, tell your child to pick a picture card from the stack. Tell him the name of the picture, then have him repeat the name and count out the syllables. Once he knows how many syllables there are, he must decide which animal's box to put it in.

Adult: Okay, pick up a card from the stack. It's a butterfly!

What is it a picture of?

Child: A butterfly!

Adult: And how many syllables, or parts, are in the word butterfly?

Count them out.

## E12: Animal Sorting (continued)

Child: But – ter – fly ... three!

Adult: Good. So which animal's box should you put it in?

Child: Um...

Adult: You said butterfly has three syllables.

Which animal on the boxes has three syllables in its name?

Child: Kangaroo! It goes in the kangaroo box.

Adult: That's right. Kangaroo has three syllables, and

butterfly has three syllables.

## Small Groups (2-5 children)

Additional Materials:

- hole punch
- yarn or string

Adaptation: Read the main activity, watch the video, and follow the instructions above, with the following changes:

Punch two holes in the four animal cards from the first page of cards, and attach a length of yarn or string to each. Each child will “wear” a card around their neck representing a 1-4 syllable animal name. Help each child count the syllables in the animal name on his card. Then hold up another picture card. Say the word and count the syllables. Who wins this card? The child who has the picture card with the same number of syllables gets to hold the card.