

# Pretending to be a ...

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## What children should learn

Physical development – to develop balance and co-ordination and to improve their gross motor skills.

## What you need

Large clear area; some large apparatus, to include: a wooden ladder and safety mats, crash/floor mats, free-standing hoops, tunnels, balls, etc.

## Activity

Depending on the number of children and the equipment available, set up different activity areas, to encourage children to move like pets. For example, you might have:

- hamsters – tunnel
- fish or snakes – slithering on floor mats
- budgies – climbing up/down the ladder
- cats – playing with a ball
- dogs – jumping through hoops

Divide the children into groups. At each area the children pretend to be that animal and move in the appropriate way. Rotate the groups between areas.

## Extension

Encourage the children to make the noise and/or behave like the relevant pet when at the activity area.

## Talk about

What was it like pretending to be the pets – making noises, moving like them? If they could be one of those pets which one would they like to be?

Encourage the children to say why.

