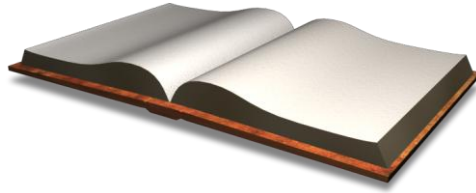


Pre-Prep Oral Language Pack

Language is the basis for learning. Almost all learning that takes place at school relies on oral language. This pack contains some language activities you can do with your child before they begin school next year. Doing these sorts of activities can help to prepare your child for school.



Reading picture books with your child



Reading books exposes your child to lots of language, including grammar and new words (vocabulary). It also helps develop knowledge of story structure. Set aside some time to sit and read with your child.

As well as reading the story to your child, go through the book talking about the pictures and asking questions about the story, e.g:

- Name unfamiliar words (e.g. “Wow! Look at that bird – it’s an eagle”)
- Talk about who is in the picture
- Talk about what is happening in the pictures
- Name 3-5 things on each page (e.g. “I can see the *beach* with lots of *sand*. There’s the *water*, can you see the *waves*? Look at the big *sun*”)
- Describe things in the picture (size, shape, colour, texture, etc) and where they are
- Talk about how characters might be feeling (e.g. “I think she’s sad because I can see her crying”)
- Ask your child to predict what is going to happen next (e.g. “What do you think he will do next?”)
- Get your child to find things in the picture (e.g. “find something you can eat”, “show me the ball”, etc)
- Get your child to project themselves into the story and describe how they would feel or behave in that situation (e.g. “what would you do if you got lost like that little girl?”)

If you don’t have a lot of books at home, join the local library – it’s free!

Corio Library
Cox Rd (corner Moa St)
Norlane, Vic, 3214

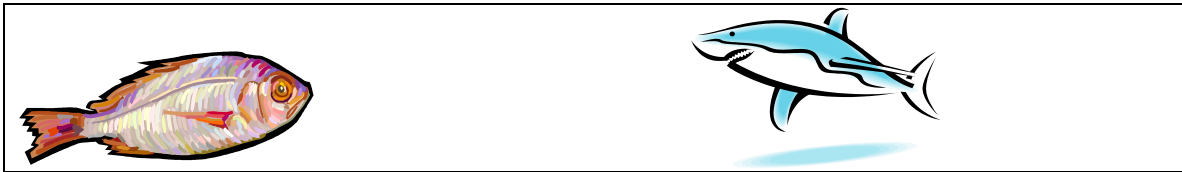
Story Time Sessions

The Corio Library runs a story time session for 3-5 year olds twice a week. It is held 10.30am-11.15am every Tuesday and Thursday. For more information see:
<http://www.geelonglibraries.vic.gov.au/>

Same / Different

Ask your child to tell you something that is the SAME and something that is DIFFERENT about the two objects

(e.g. Apple-Banana: same - both fruits, different - apples are round/bananas are long)



Treasure Hunt



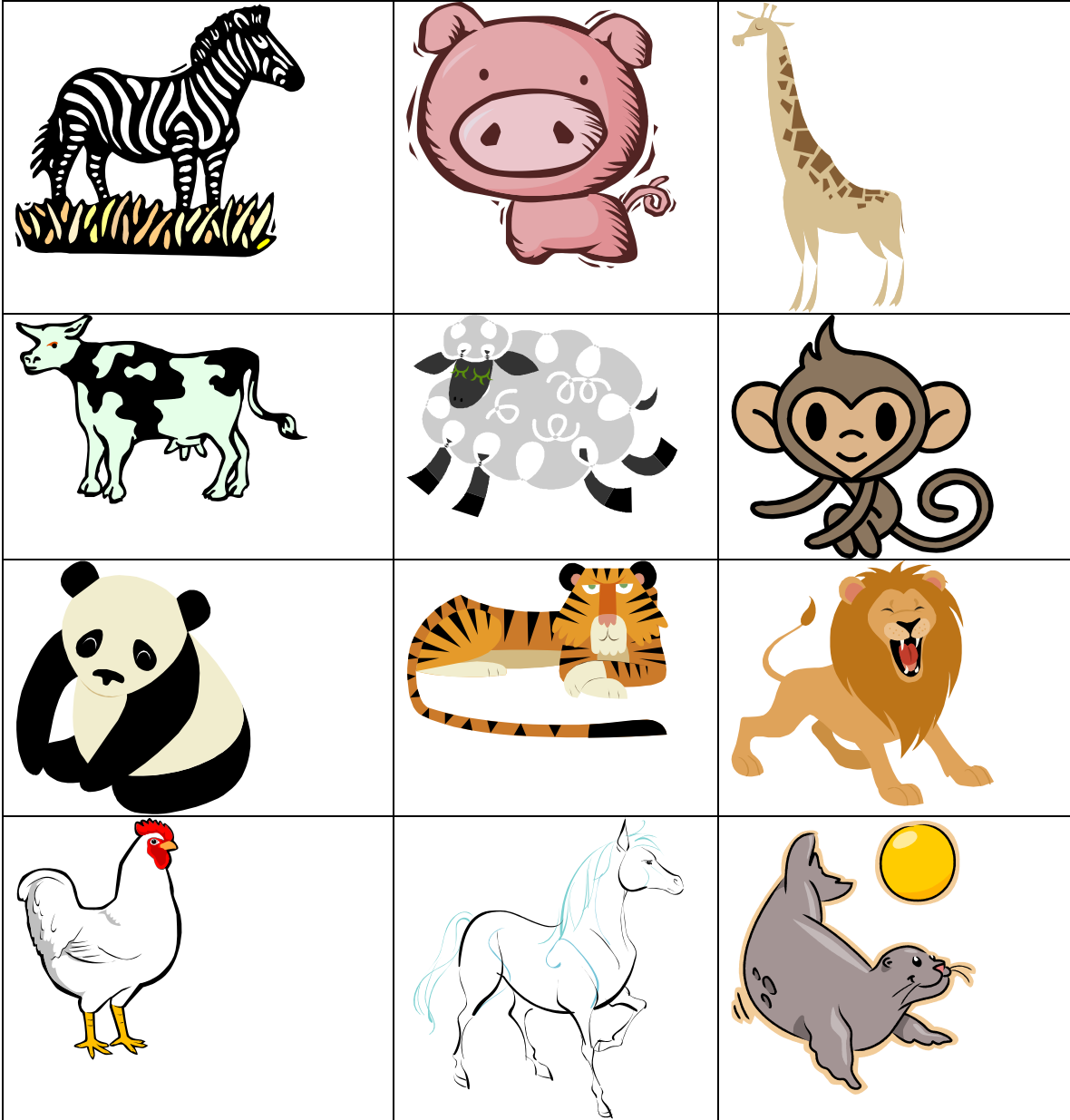
Tell your child that you are going on a treasure hunt and you have a list of things to find. You can do the treasure hunt in the house, in the backyard or even in a park. Read out each item and tick it off once you have found it (e.g. something that is green – a leaf).

Find:

- Something that is red
- Something you can eat
- Something that grows
- Something that is green
- Something that you wear on your feet
- Something that smells nice
- Something that you can eat with
- Something that is alive
- Something that is soft
- Something that is hard
- Something that is cold
- Something that is hot
- Something that you wash with
- Something that you can open and shut
- Something that you wear on your head
- Something that belongs in the bathroom
- Something that is shiny
- Something that is dirty
- Something that is clean
- Something that is in the sky
- Something that you can drink
- Something that needs electricity
- Something that is a fruit
- Something that is a vegetable

Category Sorting

Cut out these pictures and sort into 2 groups – zoo animals & farm animals



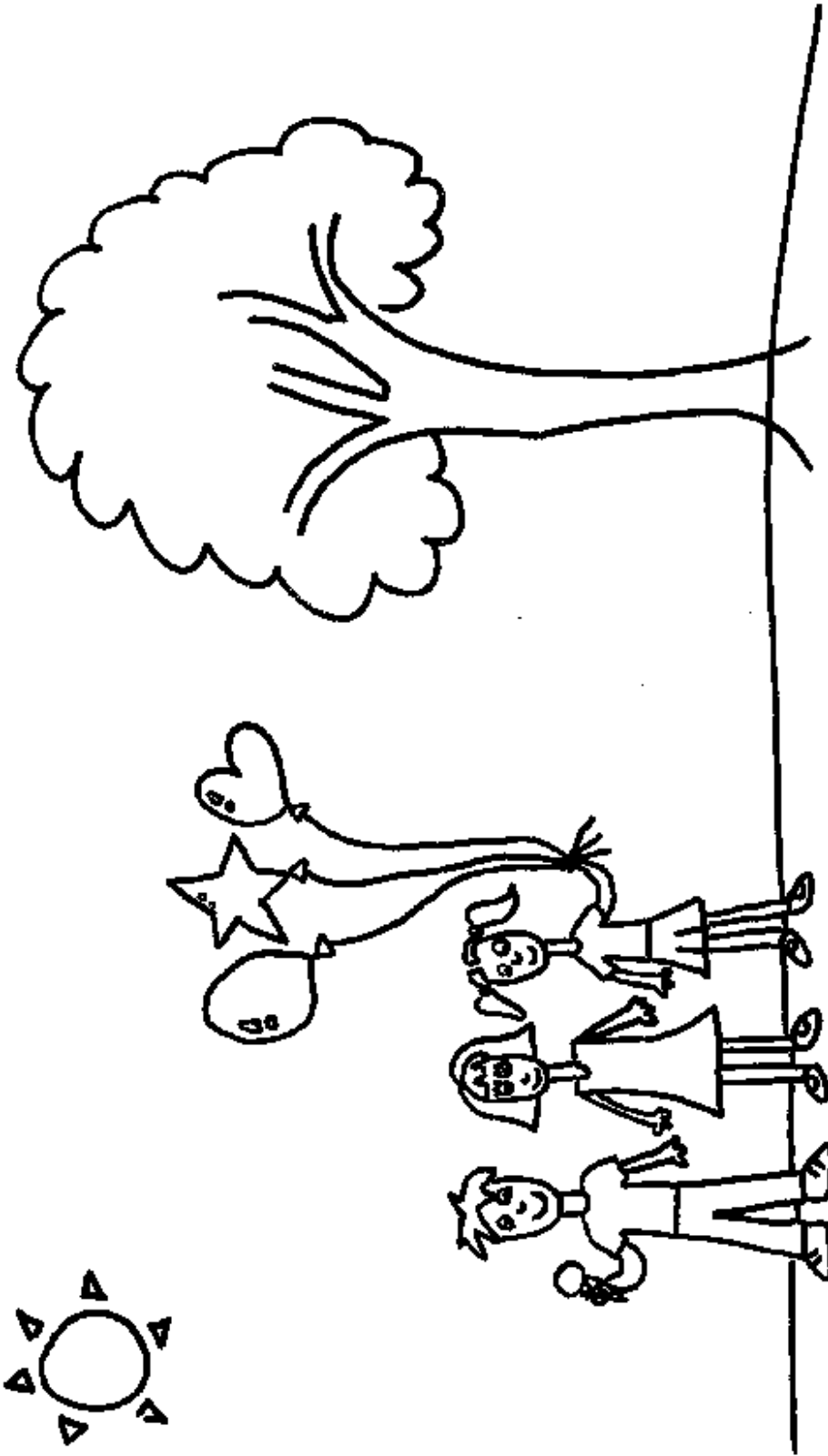
Colour to instructions

Read the instructions for your child to follow:

1. colour the **middle** balloon yellow
2. draw a cherry **on top** of the boy's ice-cream
3. colour the **middle** child
4. draw a smiley face **on** the sun
5. draw some apples **on** the tree
6. draw a dog **under** the tree
7. draw some clouds **in** the sky
8. draw some flowers **next to** the tree
9. Colour the boy's shoes red
10. Write your name **under** the children (if your child is not yet able to write their name, you could practice this together)

Questions to ask your child:

1. Show me the heart balloon.
2. What else can fly? (*birds*)
3. What is this called? (*point to the sun*)
4. What is the boy doing?
5. How many children are there? (*3*)
6. Are they boys or girls? How do you know?
7. How many balloons are there? (*3*)
8. Is it day or night? How do you know? (*sun*)
9. Are the children happy or sad? How do you know? (*they are smiling*)
10. What is the boy wearing? (*T-shirt, pants, runners*)
11. what is inside the balloon? (*air*)
12. What would happen if the balloon popped? (*it would make a loud sound, the girl would be sad, etc*)
13. What would happen if the girl let go of the strings? (*balloons would fly away*)



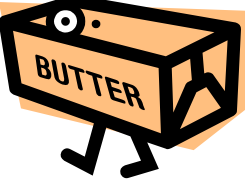



COLOR TO INSTRUCTIONS

Creating Compound Words







Compound words are made up of two words e.g. cup + cake = cupcake. This activity is designed to get your child to think about words and parts of words.

What words can you make from the pictures below? (Use the pictures from the following page to paste in the correct space)

Pictures to paste in the above activity:

 <p>Football</p>	 <p>Pancake</p>	 <p>Butterfly</p>
 <p>Toothbrush</p>	 <p>Rainbow</p>	 <p>Cupcake</p>

Rhyming

Rhyming is another important pre-reading skill. You may like to teach your child nursery rhymes and read them rhyming stories (e.g. Dr Seuss books such as “A *cat* in the *hat*”).

You may also try to get your child to recognize rhyming words by putting objects in front of them seeing if they can choose the odd one out (e.g. hat, bat, shoe). Talk with your child about why ‘shoe’ is the odd one out – it ends in an ‘oo’ sound, not an ‘at’ sound.

Odd One Out Rhyming



Answers: Cat, hat, **snake**

fan, **bed**, man

teddy, rake, cake

pig, frog, dog

Encourage your child to think up other rhyming words. These can be real or nonsense words, e.g. cat, fat, rat, sat, mat, pat, lat, jat, etc...

There are many things that you can do to help prepare your child for reading. One of the most important skills you can work on is helping your child to start thinking about sounds in words.

Odd one out – beginning sounds of words

Ask your child to choose the word that starts with a different sound. Talk about why the word is the odd one out - e.g. cat – cup – sun; sun is the odd word out because it begins with “s” not “c”. Be careful to talk about the *sounds* and not the letter names, as this can be confusing for a young child.



Answers: cat, cup, **sun**

pig, **cake**, pizza

tap, leaf, lips

dog, **mouse**, dragon