

## Unplugged Music – Animal Concert

In this lesson students will explore different animal sounds and work together to create a simple melody.

**STEM, Creative Exploration, Social Emotional Development, Early Math and Science**

PreK-K

30-45 min.

Intermed.



### Engage

- Ask students if they know what sounds different animals make.
- Have them try to imitate some of these sounds.
- Pick a song about animals that is well-known to your class and sing and/or dance to it.
  
- Share that the safari bus is full of kindergarteners today.
- They're going to a concert performed by forest animals! Would you like to meet all the animal singers?
  - Ask students what sound they think a duck makes.
  - Show students the yellow action brick and explain that when the safari bus travels over the yellow action brick we are going to make a duck sound.
  - Practice using the safari bus and track.
  
  - Ask students what sound they think a snake makes.
  - Show students the green action brick and explain that when the safari bus travels over the green action brick we are going to make a snake sound.
  - Practice using the safari bus and track.
  
  - Ask students what sound they think a sheep makes.
  - Show students the white action brick and explain that when the safari bus travels over the white action brick we are going to make a sheep sound.
  - Practice using the safari bus and track.
  
  - Ask students what sound they think an elephant makes.

### KEY OBJECTIVES

Students will

- Recognize different animal sounds
- Use the track and the action bricks to create a simple melody

### STANDARDS

The Coding Express lessons have been developed using the K-12 Standards from the Computer Science Teachers Association and Common Core State Standards. They also support the science, math, and technology guidelines from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the 21st Century Early Learning framework (P21) and Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

The learning goals listed at the end of each lesson can be used to determine whether each student is developing the relevant skills. These bullet points target specific skills or pieces of information that are practiced or presented during each lesson.

### THINGS YOU'LL NEED

- Coding Express set (45025)
- [Printable Model Card 1](#)
- [Printable Model Card 2](#)
- [Printable Model Card 3](#)
- [Teacher Introduction and Learning Grid](#)

Action brick colors on the model cards have no relevance to the unplugged lesson.

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- Show students the blue action brick and share that when the safari bus travels over the blue action brick we are going to make an elephant sound.
- Practice using the safari bus and track.
- Ask students what sound they think a bird makes.
- Show students the red action brick and share that when the safari bus travels over the red action brick we are going to make a bird sound.
- Practice using the safari bus and track.

## Explore

- Build the safari bus and a train track (an O-shaped track is recommended).
- Put the safari bus on the track and allow students to explore placing the action bricks on the track.
- Place one action brick of each color on the track and have students practice making the different animal sounds.

## Explain

- Talk to students about the different animals sounds.
- Ask questions like:
  - What animal sounds did we make?
  - How can we recognize an animal by the sound it makes?
  - Can you create an animal using LEGO bricks to match our animal sounds?
- Ask students to build an animal with LEGO bricks and place it next to the correct action brick.
- Have the students move the safari bus along the train track and make the animal sounds when the train passes over the action bricks to see if they correctly placed the animals.

## Elaborate

- Now you're going to make your own animal concert!
- Have students place the action bricks in any order on the track to compose their own music!
- Talk to students about their composition.
- Ask them what they'd like to express with their music (e.g., happiness, excitement, nice weather).
- Encourage students to sing and dance to their music. Stuffed animals or similar toys can be used as props for their performance.

## Explore

Evaluate the students' skills development by observing if they can:

- Ask "what would happen if" questions
- Identify cause and effect relationships

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- Make predictions
- Correctly sequence numbers or events
- Design and express ideas using digital tools and technology
- Express thoughts, ideas, and opinions to others

## **More Ideas**

Use the lesson's format to create a lesson for existing classroom instruments or instruments created by the students.

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