

# Let's Play

## Animal Pretend

### Learning Value:

This activity promotes development and learning by encouraging children to demonstrate use of creativity and imagination in learning and play.

### Materials Needed:

- ▶ Stuffed animals
- ▶ String or yarn
- ▶ Boxes
- ▶ Brushes
- ▶ Bowls
- ▶ Writing materials and paper

### Participants:

This activity is intended for independent play.



### Directions:

- ▶ **Step 1:** Encourage your child to create a pretend scenario with their stuffed animals. This could be a farm, a zoo, a vet's office, or other settings depending on your child's interests.
- ▶ **Step 2:** Add props to extend the play. Make animal pens from boxes or use a box for a vet's examination table. String or yarn can become a leash.
- ▶ **Step 3:** Use the writing materials to make corresponding charts, signs, or graphs. Make a sign depicting a business, such as a zoo or a vet's office, for example. Perhaps your child can write or draw a how-to book describing animal care.

#### Learn More:

- ▶ Read books about animals such as *Pet Show* by Ezra Keats. Have a pet parade or try to imitate Keats' unique illustration and collage style.