

Activities to develop auditory discrimination skills:

1. Listening - listen to sounds on CD, then ask the pupils to:
 - point to a picture of the object making the sound and name it
 - point to a real object that makes the sound and then try it out.

Variation: - listen to the sound of real objects with eyes closed. Children guess and name.

2. Play Sound Bingo - listening to sounds on tape and covering the correct picture.
3. Sound walk - pupils drawing pictures or writing down the names of the sounds they hear on the walk.
4. Grouping sounds - animals, musical instruments, vehicles, etc.
5. Odd one out - ask the pupils to identify the sound that is not part of a group of sounds, eg. dogs barking, pig grunting, cow mooing, musical instrument playing.
6. Musical discrimination - discriminating between loud/quiet, high/low, fast/slow notes. This should be part of a music lesson - ask a TA to observe.
7. Clapping or tapping rhythms - you can use pupils' names and polysyllable words. This activity can be linked with picture-noun recognition. Pupils can work in pairs, using picture-noun cards - take turns to clap syllable beats and choose the picture-noun card to match the number of beats.
8. Same/different 1 - ask the pupils to listen to sets of two everyday sounds and identify those that are the same and those that are different.
9. Same/different 2 - ask the pupils to listen to sets of two words and identify those that are the same and those that are different, eg. bat/bat, bat/bet.
10. Same/different 3 - ask the pupils to listen to sets of two words and identify those that rhyme and those that don't, eg. cat/mat, bed/bud.
11. Hands up 1 - ask the pupils to put up their hands when they hear a particular sound (sounds given one at a time).
12. Hands up 2 - ask the pupils to put up their hands when they hear a particular sound against a background of other sounds (figure/ground auditory discrimination).
13. Who is it? - choose a pupil to be blindfolded, then ask another pupil to say a short sentence. Ask the blindfolded pupil to identify the other pupil by name,
14. Sound bingo - discriminating between initial sounds.
15. Rhyme time - ask the pupils to listen to a word. If it rhymes with the word that they have in their hand then they can keep it. The winner is the first person to collect five rhyming words.