



How to Play

A monkey is chosen to stand and face away from the rest of the group. The other children stand across the other side of the play area facing the monkey.

They then jump towards the monkey with two feet together. Every so often, the monkey turns around. The other children should stop and stand still every time the monkey looks round.

If one of the children reaches the monkey, they shout 'Monkey Jump' whilst gently tapping the Monkey. This game can then be repeated with a different monkey.



Why is it important?

Personal, Social, Emotional

- Making Relationships
- Managing Feelings and Behaviour

Communication and Language

- Understanding

Physical Development

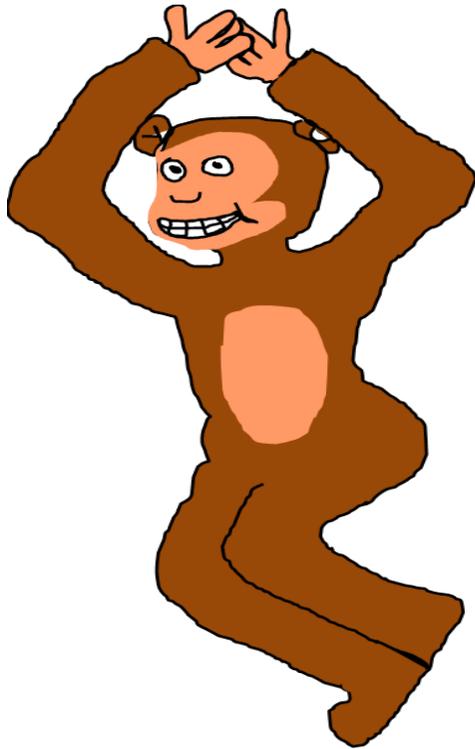
- Balance
- Spatial Awareness
- Jumping

Other Areas

- Being Imaginative (Expressive Arts & Design)

Equipment

This activity doesn't require any equipment. However, we could add equipment such as jumping sacks to help improve balance, co-ordination and control when jumping. We could also introduce bean bags or other soft equipment that children can attempt to balance on their heads to help improve co-



Key Language

Monkey jump gives children the opportunity to develop their spatial awareness and jumping skills. This also aids muscle development, particularly in the legs.

They will also use key phrases such as 'stop' and 'monkey jump' during this activity. Children have the opportunity to change the name/activity e.g., froggy hop or dinosaur stomp and can often communicate this whilst playing.

Safety

Communicate constantly with the children about spreading out into spaces, looking where they are going and trying to avoid each other.

Remind the children to tap the monkey gently and not push, pull or grab them.

Enhancement

The game can be more difficult by having 2 monkeys or by instructing the monkey to turn around more frequently. The participants could also be sent back to the start if getting caught moving by the monkey.