

Absurdities Activities - *Animals*

Introduction

An absurdity is a thing that is *unreasonable* or *impossible*. An absurdity is considered either very foolish or not to be taken seriously. This program is designed for young children to recognise absurdities from simple scenarios. The scenarios feature strange situations or oddities about animals that do not exist in the real world. The child's task is to recognise the impossible or silly situation and comment on what's wrong with the scenario. Each scenario comes with prompts which can be used to further explore each situation.

By targeting one language difficulty you often indirectly target multiple language systems. The program is at core a **vocabulary builder**, but targets other language skills such as listening to instructions. It also promotes **inference** and **thinking skills**.

Absurdities Activities - *Animals*

Animals

The lion

The lion swam quickly to catch the fish but was beaten to it by the seal.

What's silly about this sentence?

What are two animals that catch and eat fish?

Are lions water animals?

Animals

The rhino

The farmer rode his rhino around the fields to herd the sheep.

What's silly about this sentence?

Are rhino's safe animals to ride?

What type of animal might a farmer ride?

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The duck

The duck flew so fast that it quickly overtook the jet aircraft.

What's silly about this sentence?

Can a duck fly faster than a jet?

What is another water bird starting with sw___ that is similar to a duck?

Animals

The bat

The bat dove into the water and caught the fish.

What's silly about this sentence?

Do bats live in caves or in the ocean?

What sea bird starting with pen_____ likes to catch and eat fish?

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The fierce sheep

The fierce sheep chased the lion up a tree.

What's silly about this sentence?

Is a lion frightened by sheep?

Name two animals that climb trees.

Animals

The polar bear

The polar bear ate grass under the hot African sun.

What's silly about this sentence?

Where do polar bears normally live?

What large animal starting with el_____ would eat grass in Africa?

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The penguin

The tiger chased the fast running penguin through the jungle.

What's silly about this sentence?

Can a penguin run quickly?

In what sort of climate do penguins like to live?

Animals

The cow

The cow climbed the tree and swung from branch to branch.

What's silly about this sentence?

Why can't a cow climb a tree?

What's an animal that has long arms and a tail is great at climbing trees?

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The shark

We could see the shark's fin circle us as in the grass as we walked through the field.

What's silly about this sentence?

Where do sharks live?

Name a dangerous predator starting with ti_____ that lives in the jungle?

Animals

The pig

The pig neighed and the duck meowed when the farmer brought some hay.

What's silly about this sentence?

What's an animal that neighs?

What's an animal that meows?

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The cat

The cat likes to sit all day in its cage and sing songs.

What's silly about this sentence?

What type of animal stays in a cage and sings?

What sound starting with pu_____ does a cat make when it's relaxed?

Animals

The chicken

The chicken is a fierce and dangerous predator.

What's silly about this sentence?

Is a chicken a fierce and dangerous animal?

What animal, starting with f_____, is red and orange and likes to eat chickens?

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The sheep herder

The farmer was happy with his cat as it herded the cows for milking.

What's silly about this sentence?

What animal, starting with d___ would a farmer use to herd cattle?

Do cats make reliable and obedient farm workers?

Animals

The sparrow

The sparrow swooped down from the clouds and caught the rabbit.

What's silly about this sentence?

Can a sparrow lift up a rabbit?

What's a bird starting with ea___ that soars above the clouds?

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The whale

While fishing on the pier, I caught a blue whale with my fishing rod.

What's silly about this sentence?

Why couldn't you catch a whale with a fishing rod?

Is the blue whale the biggest animal on Earth?

Animals

The squid

My friend Jack has a giant squid which lives in his swimming pool.

What's silly about this sentence?

Where does a giant squid live?

Could a giant squid live in a pool with chlorinated pool water? Why/Why Not?

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The cattle

We were about to cross the busy city street when a herd of cattle stampeded past.

What's silly about this sentence?

Do cows stampede down city streets?

Where would we normally see a herd of cattle?

Animals

The pet

I trained my pet shark to sit on command and to chase and return sticks.

What's silly about this sentence?

Can a shark be trained to perform tricks?

What sea animal staring with dol_____ is able to be trained to perform tricks?

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The turtle

The turtle raced after the gazelle and soon caught it.

What's silly about this sentence?

What African animal, starting with ch_____ is the fastest land animal in the world?

Why can't a turtle chase down a gazelle?

Animals

The camel

We rode our camel across the ice shelf in the South Pole.

What's silly about this sentence?

In what climate does a camel like to live?

What sea animal, starting with se_____, likes to live in cold places and eats fish?