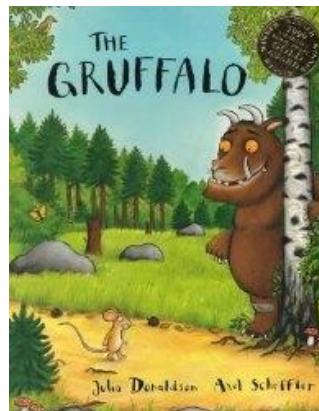




The Gruffalo: <http://www.gruffalo.com/>

This activity will help your child learn to and prepare for school
Learning new words and being able to follow directions is a skill that proves useful in many areas.
Following directions helps children stay safe in emergencies and in everyday situations.



Read the story together (it is one of our favourite books) or simply **talk about** what is happening in the pictures.

Use the **story pebbles** to put the characters in the right order.

Adult "I am going to find the mouse, he is at the beginning of the story etc"

Adult- "First Mouse meets the... hmmm I can't remember, can you?" If not, look again in the book.

Adult- "I wonder where the fox lives? I think he lives in a burrow like a rabbit, what do you think?"

Listen to each other's ideas and be positive about it.

Don't be afraid to make some mistakes and show your child you can look again in the book or on the story pebbles to find the answer. E.g "Were the prickles green? Can we check? Ah yes that is right, purple."

I am thinking of....game

Using empty boxes, or scarves, or even clean socks (!), make little houses and hide the stones inside.

Say 'I am thinking of... an animal that has.....'

Or 'I am thinking of an animal that makes this noise...Ssssss, Gggrrrrrr, Hoot-Hoot, Squeak-Squeak, Roar'

Can your child guess from the characters and lift it out of its house.





Take turns with your child to speak, listen and choose and animal

Gruffalo Pairs

Turn all the cards over, so that the picture faces down.

Take turns to turn over two pictures.

If they are the same, talk about the pictures. "My cards both have the same mouse picture. The mouse is eating a nut... (and the nut was good! You will be saying it in no time!)"

Keep going to all the pairs are matched up.

Gruffalo Listening to Letter Sounds (phonemes)

Using the cards or pebbles: Extend the 'I am thinking of' game but focus on-

I am thinking of a card/pebble that starts with the sound 'ssssssssss' (try not to say 's-uh')

'Sssssss – fox, no they don't sound the same.'

'Sssssssss- snake, ah yes, sssss and ssssnake they sound the same.'

Gruffalo Mark-Making

Place the *Gruffalo Pairs* cards on some blank paper that is big enough for you both to draw on.

Take a pen or pencil and make some squiggles and wiggles like the steps of your animal.

Walk your squiggles all over the paper and talk about where you are imagining you might go to.

Get carried away! Draw places, animals, food, write words with your child.

Showing them you like to write and draw is SO important.

