

Following are some suggestions of games and activities to do based on these listening skills:

1. Close your eyes and listen to the sounds heard in one minute. (b)
2. Recognize well-known sounds - like the ones we hear at home. For this activity you will need a tape with different sounds such as a tap running, flushing the toilette, vacuum cleaner, etc. (b)
3. Discriminate high and low sounds. (with voice, or musical instruments) (a)
4. Match sounds. Fill small identical containers with rice, sand, nails, beans, cotton batting, etc. Make sure you have a pair. Shake them, find the two that sound the same. (a)
5. Discover where a sound originates from. (close your eyes and listen carefully. "Where is it coming from and where is it going?" (e)
6. Guessing by the sound what food is being eaten. Use noisy foods, like potato chips, celery sticks, carrots, toast, etc. The children have to guess what it is. (d)
7. Use paper, tin sheet, aluminum foil, or any substance that comes in sheets; produce sounds in various ways: by crinkling, rubbing, tearing, waving, shredding, wrapping, scratching, etc. One child does the action, the rest with eyes closed, have to guess how the sound was made. Practice the vocabulary beforehand. (d)
8. Listen to the sound that common appliances make. Invent a word that names the sound. As an added activity, children name the appliance together with the sound they invented. "The car goes _____." (c, d)
9. Look at a picture (e.g. a park) then think of the sounds that you would hear if you were there. Make the sounds and record them. Play the tape another day and let the children guess what is making that noise. (When using it as an activity for an ESL classroom, the next step would be to learn the proper vocabulary: footsteps, car honking, etc.) (c, d)
10. Say a word. Next one says a word beginning with the last letter. (Cat, top, pan, nail, leg, etc.) (d)
11. A similar game can be played by using the letters in a child's name. (Carol: cat, arm, rock, oil, laugh) (d)
12. Finish the sentence with a word beginning with the same letter as the others. (Silly Sally saw seven ... swings) (d)