## Help the <br> Monkeys

a syllable counting activity


## Marie Repel

## Help the Monkeys

These adorable monkeys need some help! They are trying to sort words into groups based on the number of syllables in each word. This activity is a great way for your child to practice counting syllables. It's more fun than a barrel of monkeys!


## Instructions

1. Print pages 4-7 (color) or 8-11 (b\&w). For best results, print on cardstock or laminate printed pages.
2. Cut out the monkeys and their bases. Follow the dotted lines to cut a slit in each base and in each monkey cutout. To assemble the monkeys, slide the slits together to form an X. Stand the monkeys on the table in a row.
3. Cut out the illustrated cards. Mix them up and place them in a stack on the table with the illustrations facing up.
4. Explain the activity to your child: "It's time to help the monkeys! Monkey 1 wants to collect all the items that have one syllable. Monkey 2 wants to collect items that have two syllables, and Monkey 3 wants to collect items that have three syllables."
5. Have your child select a card, name the item or animal, and determine the number of syllables. Then have your child place the card in front of the appropriate monkey. Continue until all of the cards have been sorted. (Refer to the key on page 3 for the answers.)

## Help the Monkeys - Key

Note: It's perfectly acceptable if your child identifies an item by a name that differs from the key, such as saying puppy instead of dog. In that case, she would clap the number of syllables for puppy. Use this key as a general guide, understanding that some of your child's answers may be different.

| One-Syllable Words | Two-Syllable Words |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| drum | Three-Syllable Words |  |
| snake | zebra | kangaroo |
| fox | wagon | volcano |
| ax | mittens | tomato |
| hat | carrot | spaghetti |
| kite | pumpkin | violin |
| fish | giraffe | umbrella |
| car | tractor | octopus |
| grapes | rabbit | dinosaur |
| dog | balloon | banana |
| bee | football | hamburger |
| cat | monkey | butterfly |







Help the Monkeys
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