

THINK ABOUT . . .

Children learn the grammatical rules of language by hearing them used repeatedly in conversation. However, this type of incidental learning can be difficult for children with hearing loss. Music can be a useful tool in teaching these language rules as it gives children multiple opportunities to hear and produce the language form.



ACTIVITY

- 1- Sing *The Farmer in the Dell* to your child.
- 2- Give your child the farmer puppets and talk about the verbs that go with each puppet. Use **acoustic highlighting** to bring attention to the final -s at the end of the verbs.
- 3- Sing *The Farmer in the Dell* again with your child. During each verse, on the line after “hi-ho, the derry-oh,” stop before the verb and allow your child to sing the action (**auditory closure**). If they sing the verb but forget the third person present tense -s, model the correct production and continue to the next verse.
- 4- When your child has had enough of *The Farmer in the Dell*, set out the animal cut-out puppets and allow your child to play with them. Talk about the animal names and the noises the animals make.
- 5- Sing *I Have a Pet* to your child, allowing them to choose which animal they want to sing about next. Before each verse, talk about what each animal does and use **acoustic highlighting** to bring attention to the third person present tense -s.
- 6- Sing the song again, using **auditory closure** during the second to last line--the final opportunity to produce the verb in the verse.
- 7- Remember: don't feel frustrated if your child isn't able to sing the third person present tense -s right away. This activity is about exposure and having fun!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Farmer cut-outs
- Animal cut-outs
- Scissors
- Popsicle Sticks
- Tape

PREPARATION:

- 1- Review the tune of *The Farmer in the Dell* at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-krsNziXEW>
- 2- Review the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb” at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YE7PiTwhTQk>
- 3- Cut out the farmer and the animal cut-outs.
- 4- Tape popsicle sticks to the back of the cut-outs to make puppets.

VOCABULARY:

TARGET: THIRD PERSON PRESENT TENSE -S

Nouns:

- Farmer
- Dell
- Cow
- Pig
- Eggs
- Seeds
- Corn
- Fish
- Bird
- Mouse
- Dog
- Cat
- Chicken
- Snake
- Duck
- Lion

Verbs:

- Milk
- Feed
- Gather
- Plant
- Pick
- Swim
- Hide
- Run
- Bark
- Eat
- Purr
- Cluck
- Slither
- Waddle
- Walk
- Roar

HELPFUL TIPS:

- When singing *I Have a Pet*, allow your child to choose which animal they want to sing about next. If they say something that isn't a part of the song, like T-Rex, go with it! “I have a T-Rex who chomps like this...” Doing this helps your child feel involved in the activity, and they will absolutely love the silliness!
- Change the words of songs based on what's going on in your child's life. Going camping? Sing, “The camper gathers wood, the camper gathers wood, hi-ho, the derry-o, the camper gathers wood.” Cooking in the kitchen? Sing, “I have a knife that chops like this, chops like this, chops like this....” The possibilities are limitless.

Special thanks to graduate students in the Listening and Spoken Language Deaf Education graduate training program at Utah State University. These pages can be reproduced for educational purposes.



The Farmer in the Dell

The farmer in the dell

The farmer in the dell

Hi-ho, the derry-o

The farmer in the dell

The farmer milks the cow

The farmer milks the cow

Hi-ho, the derry-o

The farmer milks the cow

The farmer feeds the pig

The farmer feeds the pig

Hi-ho, the derry-o

The farmer feeds the pig

The farmer gathers eggs

The farmer gathers eggs

Hi-ho, the derry-o

The farmer gathers eggs

The farmer plants the seeds

The farmer plants the seeds

Hi-ho, the derry-o

The farmer plants the seeds

The farmer picks the corn

The farmer picks the corn

Hi-ho, the derry-o

The farmer picks the corn

(C)

I Have a Pet

(Sung to the tune of "Mary had a Little Lamb")

I have a fish who swims like this

Swims like this

Swims like this

I have a fish who swims like this

Splash, splash, splash, splash, splash

I have a bird who flies like this

Flies like this

Flies like this

I have a bird who flies like this

Flap, flap, flap, flap, flap

I have a mouse who squeaks like this

Squeaks like this

Squeaks like this

I have a mouse who squeaks like this

Squeak, squeak, squeak, squeak, squeak

I have a horse who runs like this

Runs like this

Runs like this

I have a horse who runs like this

Run, run, run, run, run

I have a dog who barks like this

Barks like this

Barks like this

I have a dog who barks like this

Bark, bark, bark, bark, bark

I have a pig who eats like this

Eats like this

Eats like this

I have a pig who eats like this

Yum, yum, yum, yum, yum

I have a cat who purrs like this

Purrs like this

Purrs like this

I have a cat who purrs like this

Purr, purr, purr, purr, purr

I have a chicken who clucks like this

Clucks like this

Clucks like this

I have a chicken who clucks like this

Cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck

I have a snake who slithers like this

Slithers like this

Slithers like this

I have a snake who slithers like this

Hiss, hiss, hiss, hiss, hiss

I have a duck who waddles like this

Waddles like this

Waddles like this

I have a duck who waddles like this

Waddle, waddle, waddle, waddle, waddle

I have a cow who walks like this

Walks like this

Walks like this

I have a cow who walks like this

Thump, thump, thump, thump, thump

I have a lion who roars like this

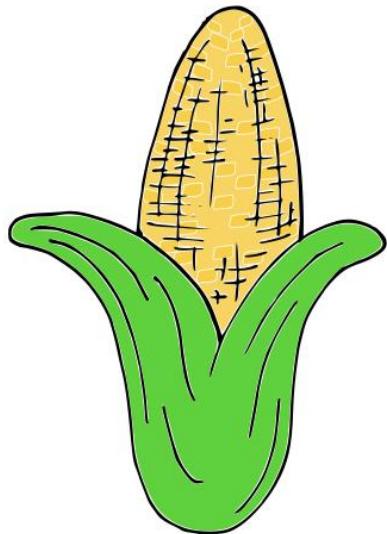
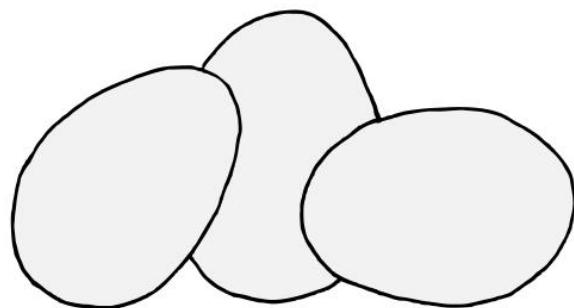
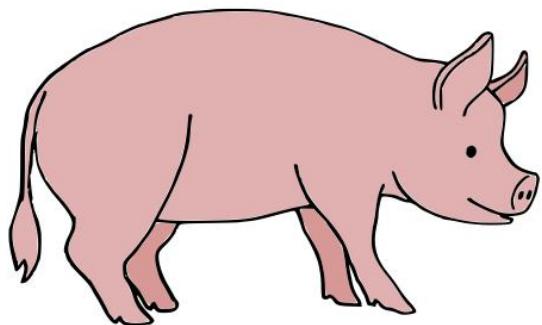
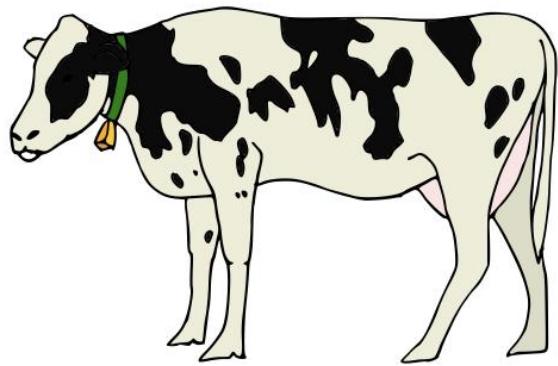
Roars like this

Roars like this

I have a lion who roars like this

Roar, roar, roar, roar, roar

Farmer cut-outs



Animal cut-outs

