**Old McDonald**

**Age Level:** Toddler - 2 year old

**Subject(s) Area:** Language

**Materials Needed:**

* Small plastic farm animals

**Standards: (Pre-K or Kindergarten Standards or Early Learning Guidelines)**

* Communication and Speaking: Imitates sounds, gestures or words

**Objectives:**

* Child will be able listen and imitate the animals names and sounds
* Child will be able to use their old schemas to identify some farm animals
* Child will demonstrate the verbal sounds of animals

**Learning Activities:**

* This activity will work with either a big group
* Children will sit down in a circle around me
* The plastic bucket full of farm animals behind me
* As I start singing Old McDonald I pull out a different animal
  + I stop in-between the song and ask children what animal is in my hand that Old McDonald has and what sound it makes
  + They then repeat the animal name and sound after I said it
* After I finish each animal I hand it to a different student so they have something to tactilely touch and feel
* Afterwards if there is time – focus on vocab words like “in front of”, “behind”, “beside”, “on top of” and etc

**Also include: Reflective Questions and Vocabulary Words introduced**

* Reflective Questions:
  + What animal is this?
  + What sound does the \_\_\_\_ make?
  + Is the \_\_\_\_ in front of or behind me?
  + Where is the \_\_\_ now? On top of my head or under?
* Vocabulary Words:
  + Farm animals
  + Farm animals sounds
  + Top
  + Bottom
  + Side
  + Above

**Assessment:**

* Observing while sound is being sang if children can imitate my sounds
* Observing to see if students are understanding the song and what is being said
* Asking questions to what animal this is

**Reflection:**

Did the whole group work?

* The whole group worked very well for this activity – the students were so engaged and would sit there for 10-15 minutes asking me to sing more “Eeeiii-Eeeiiii-Oooh”
* The children’s’ eyes were completely locked on either the plastic animal or my eyes/mouth
* They also really liked when they received an animal in their hands to hold – but their attention stayed on me still the entire time
* Some children were able to answer every farm animal while some knew the answer but would just stay quiet – that is when I would ask the specific child individual during the pause in the song if he/she knew the animal – then I would ask another child if they knew the sound
* This was a GREAT lesson for this age group and for them to grab the concept of imitating a person
* I can totally see myself using this lesson again – and thinking of this lesson makes me smile because I can see all the little children’s faces smiling and that makes me miss them very much!