

EYFS Lesson Plan

Wonky Donkey Experiences

Objectives

- To join in with repetitive language in a familiar story
- To explore story themes using the senses

Resources

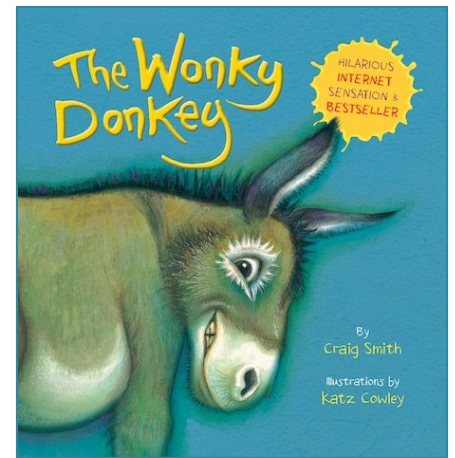
- *The Wonky Donkey* by Craig Smith and Katz Cowley
- Bags or boxes containing things relating to the story or donkeys eg coffee and hay
- Musical instruments and country music
- Cowboy hats and neckerchiefs
- Scarves and bean bags
- Trays of green and grey paint
- Carrots and apples
- Resource Sheet 1: *My Wonky Donkey Footprint*
- Resource Sheet 2: *Wonky Donkey Ears*

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Outcomes

- Children will begin to join in with repetitive language throughout the story, such as “I was walking down the road and I saw...” and “Hee Haw!”
- Children will use their sense of smell and hearing to explore aspects of the Wonky Donkey’s character



Lead in

Read the story of *The Wonky Donkey* to the class, encouraging the children to join in with the repetitive language throughout the story such as “I was walking down the road and I saw...” and “Hee Haw!”. The children may also attempt to join in with the ongoing list of donkey descriptions throughout the book.

Ask the children how this book makes them feel? Does it make them smile or laugh? Why? Encourage the children to share with the class which words or illustrations in the story they thought were funny. Did the teacher laugh as he or she was reading particular parts of the book? Can the children guess which part of the story the teacher found to be the funniest?

Main task

Provide a Wonky Donkey experience for your class with a variety of activities that will encourage children to use their senses and develop their fine and gross motor skills.

Stinky Dinky! (smell)

Encourage the children to use their sense of smell to guess what is inside the stinky-dinky bags or boxes. For example items such as coffee granules can be linked to the story and carrots, apples and hay could be linked to what a donkey might need.

Yee Haa! (hearing)

Have a honky-tonky time listening and dancing to some country music. Children could wear cowboy hats and neckerchiefs and learn a simple line dance, or use their own creativity to move to the music. Children could experiment with musical instruments such as guitars and harmonicas to make their own country music.

Grazing Time (taste and hearing)

Carrots and apples will provide a healthy snack for your hungry Wonky Donkeys. Grazing time can be as a class, in small groups or individually, depending on your setting. Encourage the children to listen to and describe the sounds that are made when they are eating the crunchy carrots and apples.

Continued...

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Spunky Donkeys (touch)

Children can use their hands and feet to make some 'good looking' donkey pictures. Copying the example on Resource Sheet 1: *My Wonky Donkey Footprint*, a grey foot print can make the donkey's face; eyes, ears and nostrils can be added with black and grey paint using a paintbrush or carrots to print with. The donkey's face can be surrounded by green hand prints, or fingerprints for the grass.

Winky Wonky (sight and balance)

Mats at the ready – things are going to get wobbly! Encourage the children to be Wonky Donkeys by standing or hopping on one leg or even (with very close supervision) pairs of children could become three-legged donkeys by tying two legs together, just like in a three-legged race. Children can also cover one eye when they are standing on one leg to become winky wonky donkeys. Can they attempt balancing activities with bean bags? Does covering one eye make them wobble more?

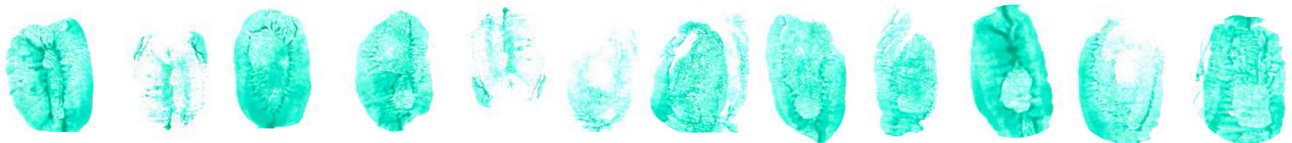
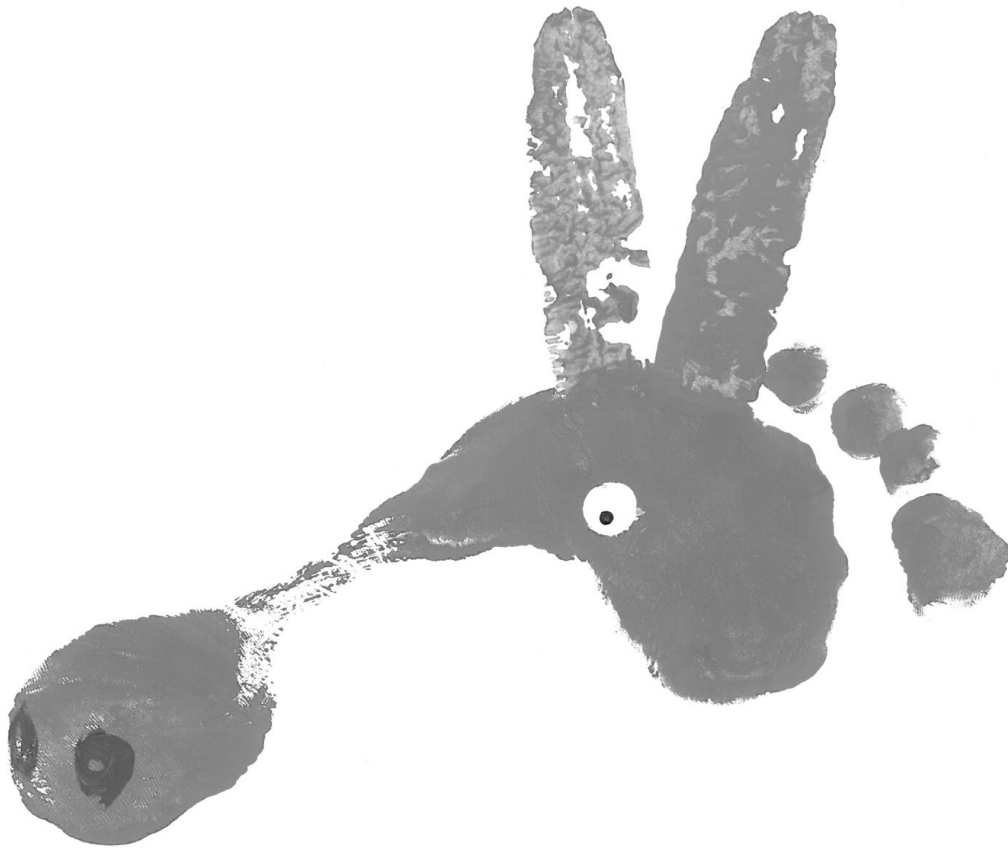
Extension

If the season or weather permits, why not have a donkey derby on an area of grass and pretend this is the Wonky Donkey's field? Lots of fun could be had with some wacky races inspired by the story. Children could wear donkey ears supplied with Resource Sheet 2: *Wonky Donkey Ears*, dress up in honky-tonky clothes and have donkey themed races with apples and carrots.

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Resource Sheet 1: My Wonky Donkey Footprint

Can you make a picture of Wonky Donkey from your footprint, like this one?



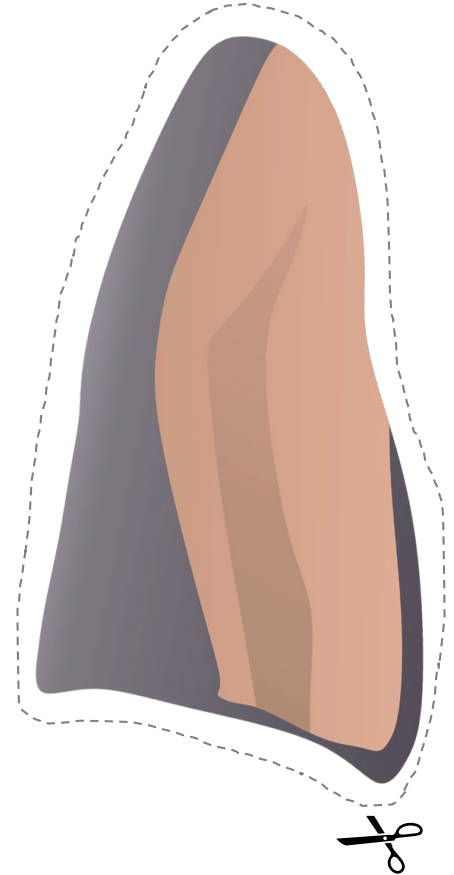
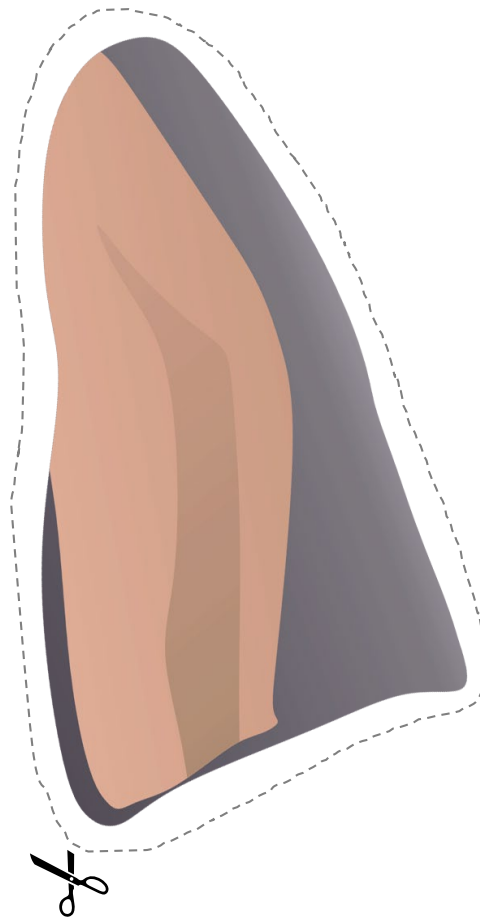
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Resource Sheet 2: Wonky Donkey Ears

Cut out and use these ears to make a Wonky Donkey headband.

Cut out and glue these strips together to make a head band. Glue the mask to the headband.

Cut out and glue these strips together to make a head band. Glue the mask to the headband.



Wonky Donkey Experiences

Curriculum links

Early Years Communication and language

- Children listen attentively in a range of situations. They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events, and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. They give attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity.
- Children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs. They use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future. They develop their narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.

Early Years Personal, social and emotional development

- Children are confident to try new activities, and to say why they like some activities more than others. They are confident to speak in a familiar group, will talk about their ideas, and will choose the resources they need for their chosen activities.

Early Years Physical development

- Children show good control and coordination in large and small movements. They handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.
- Children know the importance for good health of physical exercise and a healthy diet.

Early Years Literacy

- Children demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.
- Children talk about events and characters in books.
- Children make suggestions about what might happen next in a story.
- Children read simple words and simple sentences.
- Children use vocabulary and events from stories in play.
- Children write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others.

Early Years Understanding the world

- Children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They know that other children don't always enjoy the same things, and are sensitive to this. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others, and among families, communities and traditions.

Early Years Expressive arts and design

- Children sing songs, make music and dance, and experiment with ways of changing them. They safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function.
- Children use what they have learnt about media and materials in original ways, thinking about uses and purposes. They represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.