

Peace At Last by Jill Murphy Activities

- Encourage children to join with the repeated phrase throughout the story, "Oh No! I can't stand this," and also with the various sounds. Talk about which are the **loud** sounds and which are the **quiet** sounds e.g. the sound of the dripping tap would be quieter than the aeroplane sound Baby Bear was making and the alarm clock is another loud sound.
- Go for listening walks both indoors and outdoors which encourages your child to pay attention and focus on the sounds they hear. Talk about how loud the sounds are and what is making the sounds, is it people, machines, transport, animals etc.
- Play 'Simon Says' where your child **only** does the action asked when Simon says to develop accurate listening skills.
- Play games with instruments/objects or both. If you have 2 of the same instruments place one where your child can see and the other where they can't, this could be behind a chair, door or under a blanket etc. Take turns in playing an instrument and asking your child to listen, find and play the same. If you haven't got instruments then use everyday objects from around the home such as, stirring a spoon in a cup, rustling a packet of crisps, shaking a bunch of keys, pan and spoon etc. Your child will enjoy making the sounds for you to guess.
- Talk about the sequence of the story; first Daddy Bear went into Baby Bear's room then into the sitting room etc. to develop an understanding of order and sequencing events. Pictures can help as visual clues. Talk about familiar sequences your child does daily such as getting ready for bed, again pictures can help. Also enjoy practical activities such as making a sandwich focussing on the order and sequence and use language such as, first, next and last of all.

