

PRETEND GAMES & iMAGINATION

- zoom like a plane
- fly like an eagle
- stretch like a cat
- strut like a rooster
- leap like a frog
- run like a cheetah
- trek through the jungle
- move like lightning

- move around
- through
- up
- down
- fast
- slow



READY, SET, PRETEND!

Check out these books at your local library.

The Snowman

by Raymond Briggs

I Went Walking

by Sue Williams

From Head to Toe

by Eric Carle

Pretend You're a Cat

by Jean Marzollo

Mud Puddle

by Robert N. Munsch

Come Out and Play

by Maya Amjera and John D. Ivanko

My Pony

by Susan Jeffers

Stellaluna

by Janell Cannon

Little Fern's First Winter

by Jane Simmons

Stranger in the Woods

by Carl R. Samms II and Jean Stoick

Ducks on a Bike

by David Shannon

How I Became a Pirate

by Melinda Long and David Shannon

While You Were Chasing a Hat

by Lilian Moore

If You're Happy and You Know it

by Penny Dann

The Teddy Bear Picnic

by Jimmy Kennedy

Read, Run and Race About

2 or more players

What you need: Action storybook

How to: Choose a favorite action storybook and encourage your child to copy the actions and expressions of the characters as you read the story out loud to her. Try the books listed on the left. Look for them at your local library or book store.

Airplane

1 or more players

How to: Have your child put out her arms and move around like an airplane...take off, fly, zoom, land.



Cape Capers

2 or more players

What you need: For each player — small blanket, towel or cloth scrap for cape

How to: Using a small blanket or bath towel, show your child how to put it over his shoulders like a cape, holding the ends of the blanket or towel with their hands outstretched. Play make believe together as you say this rhyme...

Flap your wings like an eagle in the sky...

Then soar like an airplane flying high...

Float like a ghost and say "Wooooo!"

Then drift like a giant cloud in a sky of blue...

Become a super hero, dash and dart about.

"I'm coming to the rescue!" is what you shout.

Making Shapes & Animals

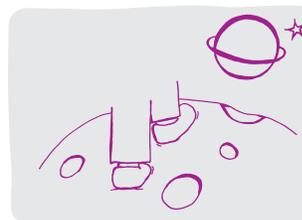
2 or more players

How to: Call out a shape...round, flat, wide, narrow, long, short, pointed, crooked, zigzag...let your child make her body into that shape or move in a way that acts out that shape. Have your child use his body to imitate an object — a table, a chair, a flower, a teapot, etc. Or, call out the name of an animal, and let your child act, move around and make sounds like that animal.

Make-Believe Walks

2 or more players

How to: As your child walks outside or inside, help her imagine walking through different places...in the forest, through the jungle, on the moon, on the hot sand of the desert, through the snow, in the mud, etc.



Let's Pretend

2 or more players

How to: Pretend you and your child are on a farm, and act out the things that happen:

Drive a tractor, plant crops, bale hay, pump water, feed and milk the cows, strut like a rooster, stretch like a cat, fetch like a dog.

Variation: Choose any other active theme and act out things that happen.

Lightning and Thunder

2 or more players

How to: One player is "lightning." The rest are "thunder." On the signal, lightning moves quickly throughout the yard or house. The players who are thunder follow behind lightning, making the sound of thunder rumbling. Switch roles so that each child has a chance to play lightning.
