



## THREE BEARS MUSIC GAME

### Materials you need:

- A selection of musical instruments (whatever you have available!)
- 3 teddy bears of different sizes (or similar toys)
- A selection of different music to play – some good choices for this activity include 'jive talkin' by the Bee Gees, Teddy Bears Picnic, 'Shake, rattle & roll' Bill Haley or one of your children's favourites.

### Setup for play:

- Sit down together with all of the instruments and talk about loud and soft sounds. Let the children come and choose the instrument they want to play.
- Introduce the children to the 3 bears and ask them to make a sound to go with each bear. For example...Mummy Bear likes quiet so go around the circle and ask each child to make a quiet sound. Daddy bear likes noisy sounds...can you make a noisy sound?
- Play the music and encourage the children to make up their own moves to match one of the 3 bears....walking on all fours, rolling, sitting on chairs, eating porridge, scratching, scaring other bears, sleeping etc
- Leave the instruments, bears and a few other props from the story of Goldilocks and watch as the children put together their own show or tell the story through music and movement.

### What are they learning with this activity?

As the children use the instruments, move around to the music and engage in dramatic play they are learning to:

- Use hand/eye coordination skills, balance and coordinate large muscle movements
- Develop new vocabulary and language skills
- Use their imagination to explore real life events
- Recognise symbols and how things can represent other things
- Negotiate roles, responsibilities and relationships
- Strengthen fine motor muscles, visual motor integration and control
- Listen and respond to sounds and patterns in music and speech
- Re-enact well known stories
- Use language and sound to communicate their thinking
- Express emotions and use gestures.

### Extending the play:

- Play the sleeping bear game – one child closes eyes and curls up in the middle of a circle with an instrument placed behind them. Take turns trying to creep into the centre and remove the instrument. How quiet can you be? Can the bear guess who took the instrument?
- Read the Bear Hunt and tell the story through fast and slow, loud and soft music and different movements. Add a basket of story props for the children to use any way they want to.

