

Communication Skills

Friends and Family: Drawing Animals

For this activity you will need four pieces of blank paper and a pen or pencil. If you are not sure if you have blank paper or a pen or pencil at home, ask your instructor for some to take home with you.

Choose someone else in your home to be your partner for this activity. They should be around your age or older. Write your partner's name here:

Sit on the floor or on chairs so that you and your partner are back to back and you cannot see what the other person is drawing or writing. You will take turns: first one person will be giving instructions while the other person draws, and then you will switch so that the person who was drawing the first time will be giving instructions the second time.

When it is your turn to give instructions, think of an animal. You may want to draw the animal on one of the papers so that you can think about what it looks like as you give directions. Your job is to help the other person draw the animal using only directions about lines and shapes. You cannot look at what the other person is drawing. You *cannot* use any words that describe body parts such as arm, leg, eye, head. You *can* use words like line, square, circle, dot, and rectangle. You can say something like, "draw a medium size circle in the middle of the page, and then draw a line from the circle out to the right." When you are finished, see if the person can guess what animal they drew, and then look at their work. Each person should give directions at least once and should draw at least once, but you can do more if you want to. **Write the name of the animal on each picture and bring the pictures with you to your program the next day.**

When you are finished, work together to answer the following questions and write down your answers here:

1. Was it easier to give instructions or to draw? Why?
2. What was most difficult about this project? Why?
3. Were you surprised when you saw what your partner drew? Why?