



EM48



10-15 minutes



- ❖ At least one soft toy cat (optional - see note)
- ❖ A chair for each 'kitten'
- ❖ An audience of other family members, friends or soft toys/dolls
- ❖ Mozart's Violin Sonata No. 17 in C (available on YouTube) - around minute 4 of the first movement, the music changes to become suitable for Mummy Cat looking for her Kittens, and the start of the second movement is slower and suitable for when Mummy Cat is sad and looking for her kittens



Use cat masks or face paints to make it even more fun for your child.

MUMMY CAT AND HER KITTENS



To develop role-play skills - staying 'in role' and interacting with others 'in role' (the adult and any other children)
 To create a scenario within which the child improvises movements to depict 'being naughty' and 'having fun'
 To move freely and fluently using the whole body



Note: If you only have one child doing this session, either engage the help of other family members/friends, or use a soft toy cat or similar too, and have your child move it around according to the games.

Throughout all the games, encourage the 'kittens' to show that they love each other and 'Mummy Cat' - their gestures towards each other are always gentle, never rough and they smile at each other.

Play 'Kitten Romp':

Put a chair for each player (kitten) along one of the walls in your room, leaving some space between the chairs and between the chairs and the wall. Put Mummy Cat's chair in the middle of the room, sit on it, and have the players sit on the floor close to you.

Tell the players that you are 'Mummy Cat' and they are going to be the 'kittens'. Say: *When 'Mummy Cat' goes out, the kittens play and have fun, then they start to be a bit naughty...* Ask your child what naughty things kittens might do, for example scratch the furniture, walk on the clean washing, tangle up the wool and knock toys off shelves. Then say: *When Mummy Cat comes back, you, the kittens, must hide behind the chairs.*

Pretend to leave, waving goodbye to the kittens. Encourage your child to find movements and expressions for pretending they are having fun while Mummy Cat is out; then for pretending to be 'a bit naughty.'

Pretend to come back and encourage the kittens to hide behind a chair.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE



Your child can stay 'in role' as a kitten to perform a simple story.
 Your child can improvise movements to express 'having fun' and 'being a bit naughty'.
 Your child can move freely and fluently, using their whole body.



KEY TO LEARNING
@HOME



EM48

MUMMY CAT AND HER KITTENS – continued



Play 'Mummy Cat Looks for Her Kittens':

Walk around the room looking very sad and searching for the kittens in every corner. Stretch out your arms with 'open' hands – first to one side, then to the other, as if asking the kittens to respond.

Pretend to cry, covering your face with your hands; pretend to wipe away the 'tears' and sniffle. End the game by sitting down on Mummy Cat's chair, pretending to be very sad – with drooping head and hunched shoulders.

Play 'Mummy Cat is Very Happy She's Found Her Kittens':

Get the kittens to come out from behind their chairs and crawl up to Mummy Cat. Show them how to put on a 'guilty' expression and let them practise.

Pretend you are very happy to see them, by smiling and stroking each kitten on the head. Encourage the kittens to show that they are happy to see you, Mummy Cat, too.

Performance: Mummy Cat and Her Kittens

Set up an audience of real family members or soft toys and dolls. Explain that together you will perform the whole story to music.

Review the plot together – Mummy Cat says goodbye; the kittens play, having fun and being naughty; Mummy Cat returns; the kittens hide; Mummy Cat looks for the kittens and cries; the kittens come out looking sad and guilty; they are all happy.

Play the music and perform the story together for the audience.