Pets

Pets are a part of daily life for kids, even if your family doesn’t have one. Safely introducing your child to pets is an awesome way to set them up for a lifetime of positive experiences with animals.

- Sing songs that include animal sounds. “Old McDonald Had a Farm” is a classic. Choose animals that your child might be familiar with, and have fun barking, meowing and chirping!
- Play together with stuffed and other toy animals. While you play, imitate the animal’s sounds. At the library, look for animal toys and puzzles in the children’s area or during play time at library story times.
- When you’re out with your baby, talk about the pets that you see. What are their colors? Are they big or little? Do they have spots, fluffy tails or scaly skin?
- Go on a field trip to a friend or family member’s house who has a pet and ask them to gently introduce your child to the pet. Help your child interact with animals in a safe and respectful way, and always monitor your baby around animals.
- Visit a park that allows dogs and observe the dogs with your child. Talk about what you see and hear around you. Find a nearby park on Pierce County’s website at co.pierce.wa.us/1381/Dog-Friendly-Sites.

More Books

- The Babies and Doggies Book by John Schindel
- Biscuit Feeds the Pets by Alyssa Satin Capucilli
- Doggies: A Counting and Barking Book by Sandra Boynton
- I Spy Pets by Edward Gibbs
- Kitten’s First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes

Rhyming Fun

My Kitten

A kitten is hiding under a chair, (Hide left thumb under right hand.)
I looked and I looked
For her everywhere. (Peer under hand.)
Under the table and
Under the bed; (Point in different directions.)
I looked in the corner,
And when I said,
“Come Kitty, come Kitty,
Here’s milk for you,” (Cup hands to make a bowl.)
Kitty came running, and
Calling “Mew, mew.”