



Activities For All

Go Giraffe Go!



Get Ready:

You need a wide open space either indoors or outside to play. Materials: strips of crepe paper (streamers) or strips of newspaper for “food”, tape, and a hula hoop.

Get Set:

Hang strips of crepe paper/newspaper at varying heights around the playspace. Use tree branches, fences, or walls and ceilings (indoors). Any place that is **safe to hang items from**. (You can even be a human tree and drape streamers over your outstretched arms.) Place a hula hoop in the center of the playing field to serve as the watering hole. Start with everyone standing at one end of the playspace.

Go:

- Once everyone is standing together at the end of the playspace, explain that they are all hungry giraffes in search of leaves to eat. Explain that giraffes gallop, and since they are so tall, their food is high in the air.
- Participants **gallop** around the playspace in search of food.
- Once they reach the hanging leaves (crepe paper/newspaper strips), they have to **stop, stretch up**, and even **jump** to capture the food.
- Once they get the food, have them gallop back to the watering hole and place the food down before galloping around, looking for more food.

Extend:

- Challenge children to gallop forward and backward, in different pathways and at different speeds.
- Vary the rounds by raising the food heights so participants really have to jump up and stretch.
- Put the food at the end of an obstacle course. Create a path for them to follow with cones, paper plates, jump ropes, or whatever is handy. Make straight lines, zigzags, lead the path over & under, etc.
- Ask children to suggest different ways to move from place to place.
- Join the play! Be a photographer on safari. As you approach giraffes say, “Click!” Giraffes must **freeze** for 10 seconds before resuming play. Have them count out loud to 10 while they freeze.

