

## Outdoor Learning Experience (Birth to 3 years old)

<p><b>Learning experience:</b> Community Helpers – Pet Shop Owner</p>	<p><b>Shared by:</b> Magdelene Chong</p>
<p><b>Environment:</b> Shop Houses in the Neighbourhood</p>	<p><b>Estimated time:</b> 45 minutes</p>
<p><b>Children’s prior experiences:</b> Children should be able to identify the different community helpers in the neighbourhood (E.g., hawker, shopkeeper, fruit seller). They have been learning about the theme on ‘Community Helpers’ for the past two weeks.</p>	<p><b>Suitable for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 18 – 24 months old (toddler)</li> <li>● 24 – 36 months old</li> </ul>
<p><b>What children will experience:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Children will observe and interact with pet birds e.g., parrot.</li> <li>● Children will learn more about the characteristics of the pet birds (e.g., the physical features – beak, colours of the fur).</li> </ul>	<p><b>EYDF Pillars:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Intentional Programme</li> <li>● The Professional Educators</li> <li>● The Engaged Community</li> </ul>
<p><b>What you will need:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Camera</li> <li>● Educators to make prior arrangements with the bird shop pet owner (That children will be visiting his shop and he could introduce some common types of birds to them).</li> <li>● Educators will need to have basic information about Pet Trade in Singapore to help children understand about pet ownership, e.g., Operations of pet stores are governed by the Pet Shop License Conditions (4) Display and Sale of Birds. Some of these regulations require pet shop owners to stock-track all bird. Singapore’s wild bird populations are also protected under the Wild Animals and Birds Act 2000. This law prohibits the capture, keeping and/or killing of wild birds without a license. It also forbids netting. Violation of this law may result in fines of up to SGD1000.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Benefit - Risk Assessment:</b></p> <p><u>Benefit:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Besides the family and school, the community is a major context in which children live and grow. Children learn through planned activities and experiences in their interaction with the community.</li> </ul> <p><u>Risk:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Children to be reminded to walk on the shared pathway (together with members of the public) along the shop houses.</li> <li>● One teacher will lead the children and another teacher will walk behind the children (to ensure that children do not stray away from the group).</li> </ul>

	<p>Access to help (e.g., vicinity to centre, communication devices)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that children are within sight.</li> </ul> <p><u>Management:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set limits/boundary for children to explore</li> <li>• Ensure teachers have sight of the children at all times</li> <li>• Brief children on the possible risks, such as looking out for any potential litter from the high rise buildings</li> </ul>
<p><b>How to make it happen:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There must be two teachers to accompany the children when they walk around the neighbourhood. The walk from the centre to the pet shop is about 10 minutes.</li> <li>2. Encourage the children to observe the different types of shops as they walk around the neighbourhood</li> <li>3. Bring children into the bird pet shop. Introduce them to the pet shop owner.</li> <li>4. Pet shop owner will introduce some common types of birds (e.g., parrot, budgie) to the children</li> <li>5. Pet shop owner introduces the parrot and shares more about the parrot – its characteristics and its eating habits. He also allows them opportunities to touch and feed the parrot.</li> <li>6. After the sharing, teachers bring the children around the shop and gets them to observe and identify the different characteristics of the birds – their different fur colours and their features (e.g., long/short beaks, tail)</li> <li>7. Show the photographs taken in this lesson to help children recall their learning experiences at the pet shop in the following lesson.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Photographs:</b> Teacher can use photographs taken during the learning experience to do a ‘picture talk’ activity when children return to the classroom.</p>