







OBJECTIVE

To help children develop their emotional awareness, facial recognition, and motor skills by mimicking various facial expressions shown through emojis.

This activity is designed to be fun and interactive, supporting children's ability to identify, understand, and express different emotions.



PREPARATION BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

1. Familiarize yourself with the App



Spend a few minutes exploring the Emoji Digital Game (https://face-yoga-game.web.app/) yourself. Get a feel for the pace of the game, how emojis are displayed, and how the app detects facial expressions.



Check the sequence of emojis and note any that may be more challenging so you can support children if they find these difficult.

2. Set Up the Environment



Choose a space with good lighting to ensure the app can accurately detect facial expressions.



Arrange seating so that children can clearly see the device screen while maintaining a comfortable distance for easy movement.







3. Prepare the Children



Explain to the children that they will play a fun game where they get to make faces, like happy, sad, surprised, etc., just like the emojis they see on the screen.



Remind them that everyone might make funny faces and that it's all part of the game! Set a supportive, fun atmosphere.

4. Group Arrangement



For larger groups, consider pairing up or forming small groups. While one child plays, others can watch, cheer, and guess the emotions, making it engaging for everyone.

5. Device Setup



Ensure the device's camera is functional and positioned correctly to detect the child's face easily.



Check that the app's sound is audible (if applicable) but not too loud, as younger children can sometimes be startled by unexpected sounds.







STEPS DURING THE ACTIVITY

1. Start the Activity



Open the Emoji Digital Game and show the children how it works by demonstrating with one or two expressions. Mimic an emoji yourself to show how the game progresses when you make the right expression.

2. Guided Play (5-10 Minutes)



Let each child take turns mimicking the emojis displayed on the screen. Encourage them to exaggerate their expressions, as this helps the app detect emotions more easily.



As they progress, offer positive reinforcement and cheer them on, saying things like:







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3. Engage the Audience (if in a group setting)



While one child is playing, ask the other children to guess the emoji's expression. For example:

WHAT DO YOU THINK
THIS FACE IS FEELING?

CAN ANYONE ELSE MAKE A FACE LIKE THAT?



This keeps everyone involved and builds group enthusiasm and awareness of different emotions.

4. Encourage Self-Reflection



After each turn, ask the child how they felt making the "face". This can be as simple as:

DID THAT FACE FEEL SILLY?

WHAT MADE YOU THINK OF SOMETHING HAPPY FOR THAT SMILE?



Simple reflections help children connect facial expressions with their feelings, enhancing emotional literacy.







5. Rotate Turns (10-15 Minutes)



Allow each child multiple turns, cycling through at least one round of all the children in the group.



For older children, you can add a bit of friendly competition by timing how quickly they recognize and mimic the emoji or by awarding stars for accurate mimicry.

6. Wrap-Up (5 Minutes)



Celebrate everyone's participation with a round of applause and encourage the children to share which face they found the funniest or hardest to make.



Offer praise for their effort and creativity, reinforcing that the goal was to explore emotions and have fun.





EXTRA ACTIVITIES

Emoji Storytime



Use the app to introduce emotions, then follow up by asking the children to make an emoji face and invent a short story or scenario about why someone might feel that way. For example, if they mimic a "sad face" they might say, "I felt sad because it started raining and I couldn't go outside."

Emoji Storytime



After playing with the app, lay out printed emoji cards showing different emotions. Ask the children to match their expression to the correct emoji or act out scenarios that fit each emotion.

Reflection and Emotion Art



After the game, ask the kids to draw or color a picture of their favorite emoji or the face they enjoyed making the most. This allows for creative expression and helps solidify the connection between visual cues and emotions.





Notes for the Teacher or Volunteer



Pacing and Patience: Some children may need more time to understand and mimic certain expressions, especially if they are younger. Give them ample time and encouragement.



Positive Reinforcement: Keep the atmosphere light and fun. If a child struggles with an expression, remind them that it's okay to try again, and offer supportive comments for every effort.



Adaptability: Adjust the duration and difficulty based on the children's age and energy level. For younger children, keep sessions shorter and focus on more obvious expressions like happy or sad.



Observing Emotional Cues: This game also offers a chance to observe how children react to and understand emotions. Note if any child has difficulty recognizing or mimicking certain expressions and consider offering additional support with emotional learning if needed.



