OLD MACDONALD HAS/ASHHHAD A ZOO!

Language: zoo, bears, apes, snakes, seals, lions, elephants; GRRR, GIBBER, SSSS, FLAP, ROAR, TRUMP
Resources: Old Macdonald activity sheet, animal flashcards

a) Cut out the zoo and animal flashcards and stick onto card.
b) Ask your children where Old MacDonald lives/lived and the names of the different animals that live/lived on his farm.
c) Now show your children the house flashcard. Tell them that Old Macdonald no longer lives/lived on a farm and elicit where he lives/lived.
d) What animals does/did Old MacDonald have in his zoo? Ask your children for suggestions. Have they ever visited a zoo, animal conservation centre or wildlife park? Have they seen any programmes on TV about wild animals? What animals have they seen? (You could ask your children to prepare a list of wild animals in groups and then award each group a point for each wild animal that appears in the song.)
e) Now show the children each of the animal flashcards in turn and elicit the noise that each makes.
f) Drill the noises and the names of the animals. (You may like to ask for volunteers to make the noises or do animal actions for the rest of the class to guess!)
g) Now hum the tune of Old MacDonald had a zoo. Stop when you reach 'farm' and point to the zoo. Encourage your children to add the word 'house' and to continue with 'A-E-I-O-U!' Continue humming and point to the zoo again and then the bear. Elicit the name of the animal and the noise it makes, then hum and GRRR in time with the original tune*
h) Continue in the same way with the other animals.
i) Now your children are ready for the whole song! Sing or chant 'Old MacDonald has/had a zoo' and invite your children to join in with you.
j) As an extension activity, your children might like to create a verse of their own, introducing another animal to their zoos.

*A please note that only a few monosyllabic animals live in a zoo, and that the additional syllables in 'lion' and 'elephant' do not exactly fit the original beat!
Old Macdonald has a zoo

Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he has some bears a-e-i-o-u
with a GRRR GRRR here and a GRRR GRRR there
here a GRRR, there a GRRR, everywhere a GRRR GRRR
Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he has some apes a-e-i-o-u
with a GIBBER GIBBER here and a GIBBER GIBBER there
here a GIBBER, there a GIBBER, everywhere a GIBBER GIBBER
Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he has some snakes a-e-i-o-u
with a SSSS SSSS here and a SSSS SSSS there
here a SSSS, there a SSSS, everywhere a SSSS SSSS
Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he has some seals a-e-i-o-u
with a FLAP FLAP here and a FLAP FLAP there
here a FLAP, there a FLAP, everywhere a FLAP FLAP
Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he has some lions a-e-i-o-u
with a ROAR ROAR here and a ROAR ROAR there
here a ROAR, there a ROAR, everywhere a ROAR ROAR
Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he has some elephants a-e-i-o-u
with a TRUMP TRUMP here and a TRUMP TRUMP there
here a TRUMP, there a TRUMP, everywhere a TRUMP TRUMP
Old Macdonald has a zoo a-e-i-o-u!
Old Macdonald had a zoo

Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he had some bears a-e-i-o-u
with a GRRR GRRR here and a GRRR GRRR there
here a GRRR, there a GRRR, everywhere a GRRR GRRR
Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he had some apes a-e-i-o-u
with a GIBBER GIBBER here and a GIBBER GIBBER there
here a GIBBER, there a GIBBER, everywhere a GIBBER GIBBER
Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he had some snakes a-e-i-o-u
with a SSSS SSSS here and a SSSS SSSS there
here a SSSS, there a SSSS, everywhere a SSSS SSSS
Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he had some seals a-e-i-o-u
with a FLAP FLAP here and a FLAP FLAP there
here a FLAP, there a FLAP, everywhere a FLAP FLAP
Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he had some lions a-e-i-o-u
with a ROAR ROAR here and a ROAR ROAR there
here a ROAR, there a ROAR, everywhere a ROAR ROAR
Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u!

Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u
and in this zoo he had some elephants a-e-i-o-u
with a TRUMP TRUMP here and a TRUMP TRUMP there
here a TRUMP, there a TRUMP, everywhere a TRUMP TRUMP
Old Macdonald had a zoo a-e-i-o-u!