Nonverbal communication activities are a great way to enhance critical social and emotional skills; and, in this activity, students will practice for a puppet show by reading scripts. Feeling words indicate what emotion should be conveyed while saying the line. Students will read and give each other feedback on how to change their tone of voice to match the emotion. Students will then use cut-outs of a lemur and a hedgehog to create different puppets for the different emotions.

**Prep:**
Print and cut out the hedgehog and lemur parts. Laminate all of the parts separately and cut out. Place pieces of the hook (hard) side of the velcro on the lemur’s and hedgehog’s face and body where mouth and head would go. Place pieces of the loop (soft) side of the velcro on the backs of all of the mouth and head pieces.

**Directions:**
1. Assign one student to be the hedgehog and the other student to be the lemur.
2. Instruct students that before they do the puppet show, they will practice their tones of voice. In front of each of their lines in the script, there will be a feeling word in parentheses, such as “surprised” or “angry.” When it is their character’s turn to speak, the student should read the line in a tone of voice that matches that feeling word.
3. Since this is practice, after each person reads his or her line, the partner should give
feedback on whether the tone of voice matched the feeling word, and what they could do to make the tone of voice match better.

4. Once the students have gone through the script a couple times and mastered their tones of voice, they can create their puppets. Students should create one puppet for each emotion that their animal displays in the script. Partners should again give feedback on whether the puppets’ facial expressions and body language match the feeling word.

5. Students can now put on the puppet show using the correct emotion puppet and the correct tone of voice as they read their lines.

6. (Optional) If students have practiced and performed with both scripts, have them write their own script! They should write dialogue between the lemur and the hedgehog and identify the emotions that match each line.

Educator Notes:
Nonverbal communication Activities:

Puppet Show

Lemur/Hedgehog Script #1

Lemur (proud): Hey Hedgehog, I took your lunch box. It was...

Hedgehog (sad): I know you did, Lemur. Suzy told me she saw you with it.

Lemur (confused): What's wrong, Hedgehog?

Hedgehog (sad): Where did we go wrong Lemur?! Best friends since kindergarten and now this!

Lemur (confused): What are you talking about?

Hedgehog (sad): My best friend, a thief! Taking my only lunchbox, leaving me to starve - oh, how could you Lemur?!

Lemur (confused): You left it on the bus by mistake. I took it and put it in your cubby for you.

Hedgehog (sad): Ooooooohhhhhhh. Well, now I feel bad for burying your lunch in the playground to get back at you.

Hedgehog (curious): I wonder where I put it....

Lemur (mad): You did what?!

Lemur/Hedgehog Script #2

Lemur (happy): Hey Hedgehog, we’re supposed to go to the beach this weekend, but....

Hedgehog (nervous): The beach?! But I'll get sand in my fur - It'll take weeks to get it all out!

Lemur (happy): ....but....

Hedgehog (nervous): The water is too cold this time of year - we'll freeze!

Lemur (confused): ...but....

Hedgehog (nervous): Sand crabs! Crabs that live in the sand will bite our tails! It'll be a DISASTER!

Lemur (confused): ...but Hedgehog, it’s supposed to rain this weekend. We can’t go to the beach.

Hedgehog (excited): ...ooooooohhhhhhh!

Hedgehog (excited): Then, would you babysit my hedgehog babies during the first movie?

Lemur (happy): Ok.

Hedgehog (excited): Thanks! You’ll have a great time with Baby Hedgely, Spike Jr, Minnie, Spinnie, Rolley, Polley, Pokey, Quillbert, Shewsby, Poppies, Prickles, Bristles, and Rascal J, McPricklypants....

Lemur (nervous): Eek!
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES:
PUPPET SHOW
Nonverbal communication activities: puppet show
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES:
PUPPET SHOW
Nonverbal Communication Activities:
Puppet Show
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES:
PUPPET SHOW
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES:
PUPPET SHOW
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES:
PUPPET SHOW
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES:
PUPPET SHOW
Nonverbal Communication Activities:
Puppet Show
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES: PUPPET SHOW
Nonverbal Communication Activities: Puppet Show
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES: PUPPET SHOW
Nonverbal communication activities: Puppet Show
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES: PUPPET SHOW
Nonverbal Communication Activities: Puppet Show
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES:
PUPPET SHOW
NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES: PUPPET SHOW