

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING HAND-MADE TOYS

---

## PICTURE BOOKS

---

### MATERIALS:

Construction paper; yarn; hole punch; simple pictures from coloring books; crayons; markers; glue.

### DIRECTIONS:

Fold three sheets of construction paper in half and crease. Punch two holes. Thread the yarn through the holes and tie in a bow on the front of the book.

In coloring books, find and color pictures of things the baby is familiar with, such as teddy bears or puppies. Glue one picture on each page. (It is optional, but the cover might be covered with clear contact paper or laminated.)

---

## TOUCH BOOKS

---

### MATERIALS:

Three 8" x 12" pieces of cotton fabric with edges cut with pinking shears; assorted pieces of textured fabrics; sewing supplies or a glue gun.

### DIRECTIONS:

Place pieces of 8" x 12" fabric on top of each other and sew a seam down the middle (or glue them together, using a glue gun). Cut a variety of colorful textured fabrics into interesting shapes (e.g., ABC's, the baby's name, shapes of animals or toys; squares, triangles, circles). Glue onto cloth pages.

---

## PERSONAL PICTURE BOOKS

---

### MATERIALS:

Heavy paper; hole punch; glue; clear contact paper; ribbon or yarn.  
Optional materials: markers or stickers.

### DIRECTIONS:

Gather pictures of the baby's family, friends, favorite toys, and pets. (You may wish to use copies of the original pictures made on a duplicating machine.) Cut out the pictures and glue them to both sides of the sheet of heavy paper. Add stickers for decorations. Cover with clear contact paper. Punch holes in each sheet. Thread yarn or ribbon through the holes and tie in a bow on the front of the book.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING HAND-MADE TOYS

---

## ROLY POLY BOOKS

---

### MATERIALS:

Empty oatmeal container with lid; magazines with pictures; scissors; clear contact paper.

### DIRECTIONS:

Select pictures from magazines of things familiar to the baby. Cut them out and glue them on the round oatmeal container. Let the glue dry and cover the container with clear contact paper.

---

## PLATE PUPPETS

---

### MATERIALS:

Paper plates; markers; yarn, ribbon, and/or crepe paper streamers; hole punch.

### DIRECTIONS:

Draw a bright smiling face on a paper plate. Punch holes around the edges of the plate and tie ribbons, yarn, and/or crepe paper streamers around the outside edges of the plate. An entire set of emotional faces can be useful (e.g., happy, sad, mad, scared).

---

## POP-UP PUPPETS

---

### MATERIALS:

Straws; paper cups; round pieces of poster board; tape; colored markers.

### DIRECTIONS:

Thread a straw through the bottom of a paper cup. Decorate two circles of poster board with faces. Tape a straw to the back of one circle. Tape the other circle to the back of the first circle. Move the straw up and down to *make the puppet hide in the cup* and then pop up!

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING HAND-MADE TOYS

---

## FINGER PUPPETS

---

### MATERIALS:

Medium-weight paper; markers; magazines or catalogs; scissors; tape or glue.

### DIRECTIONS:

Cut out a piece of medium-weight paper long enough to form a circle to easily wrap around your finger. On another piece of paper draw and color faces of people or animals, or cut out pictures from magazines or catalogs. Cut out the figure and paste it onto the middle of the strip of paper that wraps around your finger. Tape or glue the strip together to form a finger "ring" *OR*, simply draw faces on your fingertips with washable markers.

---

## SPOON FRIENDS

---

### MATERIALS:

7" wooden spoon; 4" piece of ribbon; permanent ink markers; glue gun.

### DIRECTIONS:

Draw a happy face on the front of the spoon and a sad face on the back. Tie a ribbon around the handle for a bow and glue the bow securely.

---

## NOISY BOXES

---

### MATERIALS:

Assorted small boxes, small pasta noodles; colorful contact paper; glue gun.

### DIRECTIONS:

Fill small boxes one-fourth full of pasta noodles. Glue the lids tightly shut. Cover with colorful contact paper.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING HAND-MADE TOYS

---

## SOFT DRUMS

---

**MATERIALS:**

Empty oatmeal, cornmeal, or other round cardboard containers; hot glue gun; colorful contact paper.

**DIRECTIONS:**

Hot glue the lid onto the empty container. Cover the sides of the round container with contact paper. Beat the sides like a tom-tom.

---

## SHAKERS

---

**MATERIALS:**

Small plastic bottles; rice, noodles, gravel, or sand.

**DIRECTIONS:**

Put different amounts of the different fillers into small bottles. Hot glue the inside of the lid on.

---

## RATTLERS

---

**MATERIALS:**

Empty pie tins; rice or noodles; a glue gun.

**DIRECTIONS:**

Put some rice or noodles into one of the pie tins. Run a bead of glue around the pie tin twice. Put a second pie tin on top of it and pinch them together until the glue holds.

---

## TUNNELS

---

**MATERIALS:**

A box, 18" to 24" high; a sharp knife or scissors.

**DIRECTIONS:**

Draw large 16" to 18" half-circles on opposite sides of the box. Cut out the half-circles. Let the baby crawl in and through the box to explore.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING HAND-MADE TOYS

---

## HIDING PICTURE BOX

---

### MATERIALS:

One box; magazines and/or catalogs; glue.

Optional: colorful and/or clear contact paper.

### DIRECTIONS:

Cut a large picture out of a magazine (a baby's face is preferred). If you wish, cover the box with contact paper. Glue a picture to one side of the box.

It is also optional to cover the box with clear contact paper.

---

## HAPPY/SAD PILLOWS

---

### MATERIALS:

Equal squares of light-weight colorful fabric; markers; sewing supplies; synthetic pillow stuffing material.

### DIRECTIONS:

Cut fabric squares. On one side, draw or stitch a happy face. On the other, draw or stitch a sad face. Sew the right sides together, leaving one side open to stuff. Turn the pillow case right-side out. Stuff the pillow. Then sew the open side closed.

---

## BATH MITT

---

### MATERIALS:

Terry cloth fabric; elastic or ribbon; sewing supplies.

### DIRECTIONS:

Tracing around your hand, cut two pieces of terry cloth in the shape of a mitten, elongating the bottom to extend past your wrist. Stitch or draw a colorful picture on one piece of the cloth. Sew the right sides together, leaving the bottom open. You can sew elastic around the bottom to tighten around your wrist, or use a ribbon.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING HAND-MADE TOYS

---

## DISTRACTION MAGNETS

---

### MATERIALS:

2" square pieces of cardboard; glue; sheets of magnetic backing material; clear contact paper; scissors.

Drawing supplies: stickers; old greeting cards; magazine or catalog pictures; markers, crayons, or colored pencils;

### DIRECTIONS:

Cut 2" squares of cardboard. Decorate them, using stickers, pictures you have cut out, or other drawing supplies. Cover with clear contact paper and glue magnetic strips onto the back.