

Get Creative

All you need are some pencils, colours and a few everyday things. **Rachana Shah** shows you how you can create fun stuff with your tiny tots using simple materials

A child begins to learn at an early age. As it grows, it picks up – voluntarily, through teachings – or involuntarily, new lessons. Parents should remember that spending time in arts and crafts related activities is really important for young kids. Just watch your one-year-old indulge in finger painting and see the joy on her face.

It is a well-known fact that arts and crafts are a form of communication, a way of expressing ourselves in a variety of mediums. These sessions allow children to gain self confidence, belief in their abilities and to learn through play.

A child can learn several skills through these sessions. These include:

- The ability to fill a blank paper with a creation.
- The confidence to make mistakes and move on.
- The ability to find solutions to problems.
- The medium to explain himself and his relationships to the world.
- The ability to focus of details.



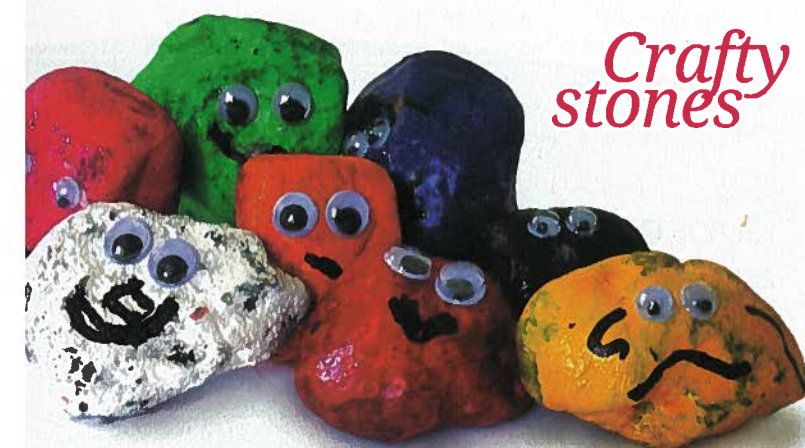
Lionhands

What you need

- A pair of your own hands
- Poster colours and a paint brush
- Papers
- Scissors
- Fevicol
- Hole punch

Method

1. Colour the hands with the brush.
2. Apply the handprints on a white paper.
3. Cut thin strips of coloured paper.
4. Cut triangular strips of paper for the tiger's body.
5. Stick them around the handprint.
6. Cut two small white holes in a white paper and use the cut out circle for the eyes.



Crafty stones

What you need

- Any size stones
- Ready plastic eyes
- Acrylic paints
- Fevicol
- Permanent marker

Method

1. Clean and wash the dust from the stones.
2. Once they dry apply acrylic paint on them.
3. Apply Fevicol and stick the eyes.
4. Use the marker to make faces or to scribble anything else.

What they can be used for

- Can be used to make a game.
- Can be used to make characters for story telling.
- Can be used to learn emotions and expressions.

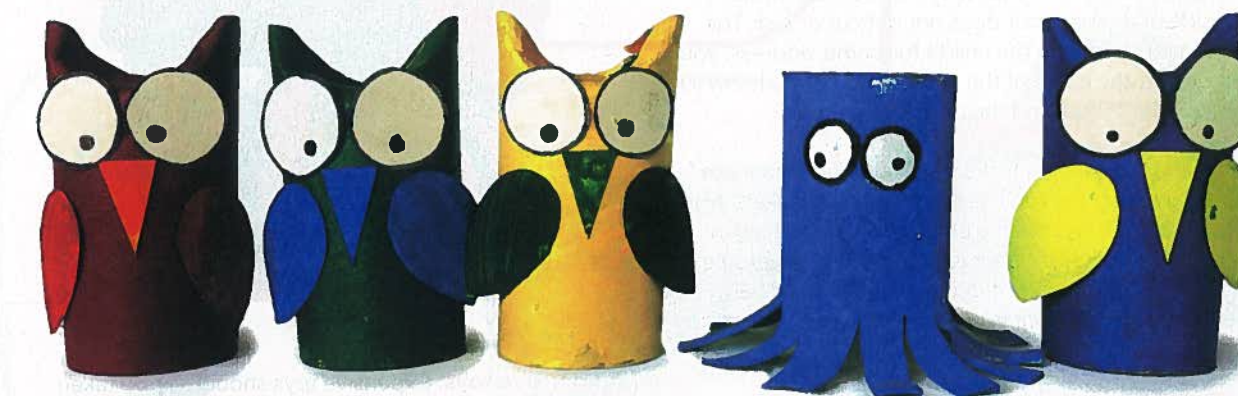
PorcuPencils

What you need

- Air drying clay
- Acrylic paint
- Pencils

Method

1. Mould the clay into the shape of a porcupine.
2. Make three ball-shaped pieces, 2 for the eyes and 1 for the nose.
3. Make the ears and the feet the way you want.
4. While they are still wet stick the body parts to the body and then poke holes with a pencil all over the body.
5. Leave to dry for more than 24 hours.
6. Once dried apply the acrylic paint.



Owl & Octopus

What you need

- Toilet paper rolls
- Acrylic paints or poster colours
- Paint brush
- White paper
- Fevicol
- Scissors
- Black marker

Method

1. Press the top part of the toilet paper roll inwards to make the owl ears.
2. Form the white paper cut the wings, the eyes and the nose.
3. Paint the brown toilet paper roll in a colour of your choice.
4. Paint the wings and nose in the colour of your choice.
5. On the white eyes, with the black marker colour the outline and the eyeballs.
6. Once the paint dries, stick the eyes, nose and wings to the body.

Rachana Shah is a partner at mCube, a firm specialising in branding and design. When she isn't busy conjuring up logos for her clients, she channels her creativity towards helping grow children's imagination through the medium of art and craft. For more information, contact her at +919011070759