



Draw the Tree Rings

Take turns adding rings and help each circle become rounder.

Helps Your Child Grow



Imitation and Symbolic Representation and Play

Watching you draw a circle, imitating the shape, and comparing the results gives your child practice adjusting an attempt to look more like a model.

Steps

- Gather paper, a marker, and a photo of a tree stump or cross-section. Look at the photo and briefly introduce the tree's rings.
- Draw a stump outline on the paper and invite your child to fill it with rings.
- Begin with a small circle in the center: "We'll take turns. I'll draw this little ring, and you draw the next one."
- A child's circle may wobble or have a pointed corner. That is part of learning the movement.
- Compare the two without judging: "Your ring has a little point here. Look at this ring - where does it stay round?"
- Continue taking turns from the center outward. When the stump is full, count the rings together.

Tips

- The circles do not need to be perfect. Point to one visible difference and let repeated comparison and drawing help your child adjust.

Observations

- Uses your movement and finished circle as a model for drawing one
- Counts the finished tree rings with you