



Animal Makeover Print Party

Invite your child to style animal pictures with paint prints. Choosing among inflated plastic bags, bundled swabs, flowers, and stamps creates a playful reason to test and switch tools.

Helps Your Child Grow



Cognitive Self-Regulation (Executive Functioning)

Choosing and switching among unusual painting tools to match different outfit ideas gives your child practice adapting an approach when the task changes.



Fine Motor

Adjusting the grasp and movement for several printing tools gives your child practice with fine hand control.

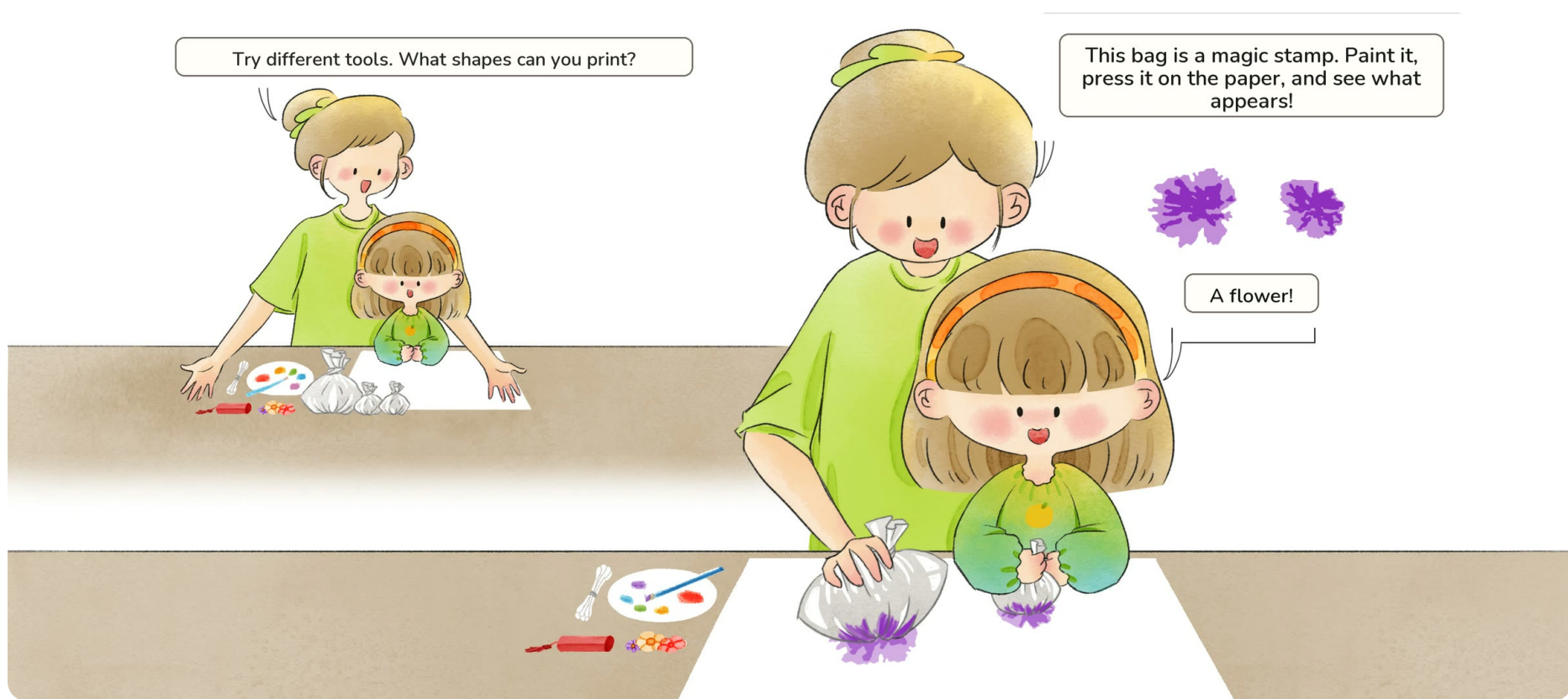


What You'll Need



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1. Washable paint
2. paper with animal outlines
3. unusual printing tools, such as small inflated plastic bags, stamps, bundled cotton swabs, and small flowers



Explore the Makeover Tools

Invite your child to become the animals' stylist. First explore how each tool looks and feels, then dip it in paint and make a print. Let your child choose freely and become familiar with the different marks.

Observations

- Adjusts their grasp when using a different printing tool
- Presses and stamps with several small tools

Tips

- Touch and compare the materials, such as the soft bag or the narrow and wide swab bundles.
- Before demonstrating, let your child press, roll, or tap the tools and discover the marks each motion leaves.
- When showing one tool, move slowly enough for your child to follow. Introduce another after the first becomes familiar.



Design the Animal Outfits

Bring out the animal pages and let your child create. If a print crosses an outline, treat the unexpected mark as part of the design and ask what it could become.

Observations

- Uses an unusual tool to create an original animal outfit
- Holds a tool like a paintbrush and marks the animal's clothing

Tips

- Use an animal feature as inspiration. Small flower prints might decorate Bunny's long, open ears.
- If prints extend beyond a dress, build on the idea: "You gave Bunny a huge flower skirt!"
- Let each work remain your child's own expression rather than labeling it right or wrong.
- Try an unexpected surface, such as the back of a tool, and compare the new print.



Try a New Tool

If one tool is used repeatedly, say that another animal wants a different pattern and invite your child to switch. When every makeover is complete, talk about the tools, marks, and choices.

Observations

- Tries another tool after your suggestion
- Talks with you about an idea from the painting process

Tips

- Compare the pattern left by each tool and notice what changes after a switch.
- Model a short explanation: "I used the bag to print a big flower."
- Switching tools is not only decorative; it gives your child experience trying a new method instead of repeating the familiar one.
- Invite your child to retell one choice from the creative process in their own words.