

Silhouette Hands (Calendar Craft)

Get your spray bottle ready! It is time to create your child's handprints without having to dirty the underside of your child's hand. Instead, the backside will get painted for a change! For more craft activities and ideas, please visit us at www.signingtime.com and www.signingtimekids.org.

Materials Needed:

- July calendar page (back side, upside-down)
- 3 spray bottles (empty)
- Tempera paint (3 to 5 colors)
- Water
- White paper
- Newspaper
- Your child's hands!
- Construction paper (optional – see below)



This craft was completed using one tablespoon tempera to two tablespoons water.

Book Link:

- **“First Day, Hooray!”** by Nancy Poydar
- **“It’s Back To School We Go!”** by Ellen Jackson

Time to create!

Step 1: To begin, start by laying out some newspaper. Place your white piece of paper onto the center of the newspaper.

Step 2: Next, determine which colors you will use. Dilute tempera paint colors using one part tempera to two parts water. Be sure to mix each color well. Then pour one color into each spray bottle. Test your sprayer by spraying some newspaper to be sure you have a nice even mist of spray before beginning. Now you are ready!

Step 3: Have your child place his/her hands onto the white construction paper. Emphasize to your child he/she is not to move any part of his/her hands – they will need to hold still! Starting with your first color, spray over your child's hands 3 or 4 times. Continue doing this until you have used all of your colors. Set aside to dry completely before labeling this month's project “August.”

Step 4: Your child can now remove his/her hands. You now have a beautiful silhouette of your child's hands!

OPTIONAL: For children under the age of 3, you may find your child is unable to hold his/her hands in place to complete this activity. To make this activity more fun for a younger audience, trace your child's hands onto a piece of construction paper and cut out the hands. Place the cut-out hands onto the white piece of construction paper. Hold down the paper hands as your child sprays his/her first color. You will find your child is going to have a lot of fun making YOUR hands a spray painted mess! When spraying the second color, you will not need to hold down the cut-out hands as they are damp enough to stay in place. When your child is finished, remove the paper hands. You now have a beautiful silhouette of your child's little hands!

