



Prints of Love (Calendar Craft)

Since Valentine's Day is just around the corner, we are going to create crafts around the theme of "love." The following craft is very simple and it is also a lot of fun! For more craft activities and ideas, please visit www.signingtime.com or www.signingtimekids.org.

What do I need?

- Red tempera paint
- White tempera paint (optional)
- January Calendar (backside/upside down)
- Soap and water

Book Link:

"Guess How Much I Love You" by Sam McBratney

"You Are My I Love You" by Mariann Cusimano Love

Time to create!

Step 1: Using the backside of your upside down January calendar page, begin by pouring red tempera paint onto a pan (for easy clean up, cover pan with foil). Your child will be making a handprint heart. The top of the heart (the rounded edges) will be the heel and palms of your child's hands and the fingers will make the point at the base of the heart. Have your child place his/her hands into the paint. Place one hand at a time onto the paper. Press your child's hand. (Again, it is best with toddlers to stamp one hand, wash that hand then use the other hand.) You will want to overlap the fingers to make a point at the base of the heart. While it is drying, wash your child's hands with soap and water.

Step 2: Now it is time for making fingerprint hearts by overlapping two fingerprints. Along with the red paint you have left over, you might like to add an additional color, pink. Mix a little white tempera with the red to make whatever shade of pink you would like. The more white you add, the lighter the color becomes. Using the red and/or pink begin by placing your finger into the paint. Then press your finger on the calendar page. You made half of a heart. Dip your finger again and overlap your next fingerprint so it makes a complete heart. Remember, there is no right or wrong way to do this...just have fun!

