



Handprint Painted Butterfly

This craft guide provides an activity for the month of January. This will be the first page of your calendar if you choose to make a calendar keepsake. For additional craft ideas, visit www.signingtime.com or www.signingtimekids.org

What do I need?

- 12X12 in. card stock paper
- Thin tip marking pen
- Tempera Paint (a variety of colors)
- Paint brush
- A few small dishes
- Glue

Book Link:

While you read a story about butterflies, point out to your child the markings on a butterfly, their colors, etc.

"The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle

"Where Butterflies Grow" By Joanne Ryder - This book may even inspire you to adapt an area of your garden to attract butterflies!

Time to Create!

Step 1: Begin by painting your child's thumbs brown, starting at the tip and move down the thumb to the palm (butterfly's body). Now, paint palms and fingers using blue tempera paint. Now that your child's hands are painted, have your child place his/her hands onto the white cardstock paper (side of palms to the tip of his/her thumbs should be touching and fingers should be together). Your child should press firmly down. Be sure to leave space at the top to write the month "January." (For toddlers, it is recommended you do one hand at a time.)

Step 2: After the butterfly print has been made, have your child dip his/her finger into the brown paint and have him/her go back over the brown portion coloring in any places that the white paper shows through. Then, make a fingerprint at the base of the butterfly to make a tail. Allow time to dry.

Step 3: Once the butterfly is dry, have your child choose a few other colors to decorate his/her butterfly. Your child should then use his/her fingers and place fingerprints of color on the butterfly's wings.

Step 4: Below you will find a poem. You may choose to cut this out and glue it onto a small piece of construction paper and mount it near your butterfly or you may choose to have you or your child write it onto your calendar page.

"Handprint Treasures"

I leave my handprints all around
for you to wipe and clean when found
but these prints here are a different kind
for every month right here you'll find
painted, glittered, glued
handprints made especially for you!
One day my handprints will be much bigger
but you'll have these handprints to forever treasure
I made this calendar for you to recall
a time when my handprints were so small.
I love you!



*In this picture the poem was enlarged and mounted on colored paper. Stickers were also purchased to represent each month. You may want your child to write the month and color it. *

