

YEAR-LONG MONTHLY ART PROJECT KEEPSAKE BOOK HAND PRINT “QUILT” SQUARES.

Cover:

I may be a HANDful sometimes...

But I'm a heartful always.

Young Five (YEAR) Handprint Keepsake Book

This is a great “instant” bulletin or “wall” board decoration as well. I got this quilt-work idea from Marsha a fellow pre-school teacher that has since moved on and taken a fulltime kindergarten job in a nearby school. (I miss you Marsh!) She would paint on white squares and then mount on two different colored squares and hang on an empty wall in her room so it looked just like a quilt.

I hang some of the work in the hall and laminate the “pages” for one of my parent’s favorite Keepsake books. We do one page each month. In June I collate them all using a binding machine.

Use white paper unless designated.

September: Apple

- You are the apple of my eye.
- Paint only the palm red.
- Then, paint pinkie brown for stem and press on.
- Wash, then paint thumb green for leaf and press on.

October: Spider

Use orange and yellow paper.

- Fingerprints on the wall, aren't so scary after all.
- Glue a black die cut 8 in the middle if you want a math/science extension.
- Paint only the palm and 4 spread fingers black.
- Press facing left.
- Paint again and face right.

November: Turkey

I think you're turkey-rific!

- Paint palm brown and 4 spread fingers + thumb orange, yellow, red, and brown.
- I paint the thumb and the pinkie brown.
- Children add stick legs, a waddle, eyes and a beak with crayons when dry.

December: Christmas Tree

I LOVE you tree-mendously!

- Paint palm and 4 spread fingers green. Print twice overlapping the “boughs”.
- Turn upside down and you'll have a tree.
- Wash, paint pinkie brown for trunk.
- Wash, paint thumb red and dot on for ornaments.

December: Alternate Idea: Santa:

I'm Bein' Extra Good!

- Paint top of hand + thumb red for Santa's hat.
- Paint middle of palm flesh-colored for Santa's face.
- Paint 4 fingers white for Santa's beard, white.
- Add black eyes and a pink nose with a Q-tip or use their pinkie.

January: Snowflake

You are "snow" special to me!

Use blue paper.

- Paint the palm, pointer, middle and ring finger white.
- Press pointing upward.
- Turn the paper around and do it again so that it faces down, so that you have a 6-pointed snowflake.
- If you are not going to laminate, these look great sprinkled with silver or opalescent glitter.

Or...

- Trace over-sized blue mittens for boys and hot pink mittens for girls.
- Glue the mittens on white squares.
- Paint entire hand white.
- Press onto the center of the mitten.

February: Whole handprint with heart in the middle

Paint on red.

You can hold my hand for a little while, but you'll be in my heart forever.

- Paint entire hand light brown or flesh tone if you have it.
- Paint thumb red and press twice to make a heart in the middle of the palm.

March: Fish

Paint on lime green.

Hooked on reading and hooked on your love.

- Paint palm and 4 spread fingers facing right or left orange
- Paint thumb yellow and press on front of fish to make lips.

April: Bunny head.

Paint on light pink for girls and powder blue for boys.

You're somebunny very special to me.

- Paint palm pointer and pinkie white.
- If you are not going to laminate these, wiggle eyes and a small pink pom pom nose + pink puffy paint for a mouth look adorable.
- When dry either you or your students can draw in eyes, nose and mouth.

May: Tulip

A flower for my mommy just because...

- Paint the palm and 4 spread fingers pink or purple. (I give my students a choice.)

- Paint the pointer green and drag it down the paper for a stem.
- Paint the thumb green and add 2 leaves.
- Later, my students cut out brown construction paper pots and glue them under their flower.

June: Flag

Paint on gray paper.

Red-White-and Blue I love you!

- Paint the area below the thumb blue, paint the palm through the fingers alternate red and white.
- When dry, give the children some gold or silver stars to stick on the blue area.