

## Rainbow Prints

(Calendar Craft)

You and your child will be creating a handprint cloud, with streams of fingerprints in rainbow colors bursting from the cloud. Get ready to see all the colors of the rainbow. For more craft activities and ideas, please visit us at [www.signingtime.com](http://www.signingtime.com) or [www.signingtimekids.org](http://www.signingtimekids.org)

### Materials Needed:

(You will need the following colors of tempera paint)

- Red
- Orange
- Yellow
- Green
- Blue
- Purple
- White
- April Calendar page (backside/upside down)
- Plate and/or foil
- Pencil



### Book Link:

*"All the Colors of the Rainbow"* by Allan Fowler  
*"A Rainbow of My Own"* by Don Freeman

### Time to create!

**Step 1:** Using the backside/upside down April calendar page, begin by mixing some blue paint with white to create a soft blue color. Using one of your child's hands, stamp his/her hand into the paint. Then gently place the hand on either the left or right of the page, near the edge.

**Step 2:** Next, you might like to draw 7 lines coming from the handprint. These lines will function as a guide for your child to follow when making their fingerprints of each color.

**Step 3:** To complete the rainbow, start by making a small puddle of red paint. Using your child's pointer finger, dip it into the red paint. Following the lines you have made, have your child begin stamping his/her red finger between the first two lines to make the red portion of the rainbow. When the red is complete, continue making fingerprints using the orange, yellow, green, blue and purple using the additional lines you have drawn. Now your rainbow is complete!

**Step 4:** Using the attached story sheet, your child can write their own story about a rainbow. Have your child think about a time they saw a rainbow. Where did he/she see it? Were they in the car? Were they on vacation? Or did he/she see it in a book? The story has been started for you. "I once saw a rainbow...." If your child is too young to write for themselves, have your child tell you about their rainbow story and you can write it down for him/her. This will be a lot of fun! When the story is written onto the sheet below, you might like to cut out a piece of construction paper and mount it onto your calendar page. Remember, have fun together!



I once saw a rainbow...\_\_\_\_\_

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## "Helping Hands"

With Mother's Day just around the corner, this craft was designed for children to lend their "helping hands" at home...especially for mom. Using a small flower pot, a piece of foam, some brown paper, popsicle sticks and your child's handprints, something special will be blooming for all mom's this month. For more craft activities and ideas, please visit us at [www.signingtime.com](http://www.signingtime.com) or [www.signingtimekids.org](http://www.signingtimekids.org)

### Materials Needed:

- Small flower pot
- A piece of Styrofoam
- Brown paper (tissue paper)
- Paint colors of your choice
- 6 or 7 popsicle sticks
- Colored construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Thin tip marker or pen

### Book Link:

*"Good Grief, It's Mother's Day!"* by Alice Alfonsi

*"I Love My Mama"* by Peter Kavanagh



### Time to create!

**Step 1:** Start by having your child choose the paint colors he/she would like to paint the flower pot. Your child might even like to add rhinestones or stickers to dress it up a little bit. Once the pot is decorated, set it aside to dry.

**Step 2:** Using the piece of Styrofoam, cut it to fit inside at the base of the flower pot. (This will be what holds the Popsicle sticks in place.) Next, help your child trace his/her handprint onto multiple colors of construction paper. Then cut them out. Use a pen or thin tip marker and have you or your child write onto the backside of each hand one thing he/she will do to be helpful to mom. Using the glue, place a dab on the end of each Popsicle stick and place one handprint onto each stick. You might even like to bend in some of the fingers to make the "I love you" (ILY) handshape!

**Step 3:** Now it is time to assemble the "Helping Hands" gift for mom. Begin by placing the Styrofoam into the base of the pot. Next, firmly press each stick into the Styrofoam until it is securely held in place. Finally, stuff with brown tissue paper the remaining space inside the pot. Fill up to the rim of the flower pot. Now you have a creative way of offering mom your "helping hands" as a unique gift on Mother's Day.

### Note:

If you have more than one child doing this activity and you would like to combine your children's "helping hands," you might like to use a medium or large pot and increase the number of Popsicle sticks as well as some of the other supplies.

