

My Journey Home Family Connection

This week your child is reading a selection titled *The Handiest Things in the World*. It takes a whimsical look at hands and other tools that we use in our daily lives.

DAY
1

Using Tools A screwdriver is a great first tool. Show your child how to use a screwdriver to twist a screw into place. Don't forget to use the screwdriver to take the screw out! After you are finished, talk about how the tool made the job easier.

Tip!

Wood might be difficult for young hands. If so, try helping your child drill a screw into a large bar of soap.

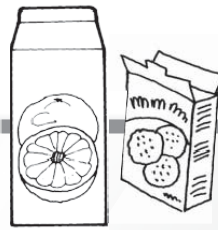
DAY
2

Vocabulary on the Go Look through a toy catalog or magazine. Have your child cut out two pictures of things he or she likes and paste the pictures on a piece of paper. At the bottom of the paper write: *I like the ____ and ____*. Fill in the blanks to match the pictures your child chose. Then ask your child to read the sentence with you.

DAY
3

Shadow Puppets What's another thing you can do with your hands? You can make shadow puppets! Turn off the lights in a room and shine a flashlight on a blank wall. Take turns making shapes in the beam of light. Can your child make a bunny, dog, bird, or tree?

Handy Cooking With your child, read and discuss this recipe that lets you use your hands to make a fun treat!



Vanilla Cookies

What You Need

5 vanilla wafers zippered-top plastic bag
orange juice powdered sugar

Directions

1. Place the wafers in the plastic bag and seal.
2. Make a fist and smash the wafers.
3. Add one or two teaspoons of orange juice to the bag. Squish the bag to mix it up.
4. Roll the mix into small balls and roll in powdered sugar.

Guess the Tool Choose a kitchen tool with safe edges such as a whisk or spatula. Place it inside a sock. Ask your child to feel the sock and guess the tool inside.

CHALLENGE

Challenge your child to find five tools in the kitchen. Play the guessing game, reversing the roles.



Book Links

- *Monkey with a Tool Belt*, by Chris Monroe
- *Tool Book*, by Gail Gibbons **CHALLENGE**



Internet Challenge Ask your child how to communicate using his or her hands. If your child wants to explore more about signs and sign language, do a search together for “sign language for kids.”