



# ACTIVITIES

## APPLE PRINTING

An adult should cut some apples in half from top to bottom (vertically) and some around the middle (horizontally). Show the children the hidden star inside the apples cut around the middle. Pour small amounts of tempera paint onto several sponges set in shallow containers. Let the children dab the apple halves on the sponges and then gently press the apples on pieces of construction paper to make prints.

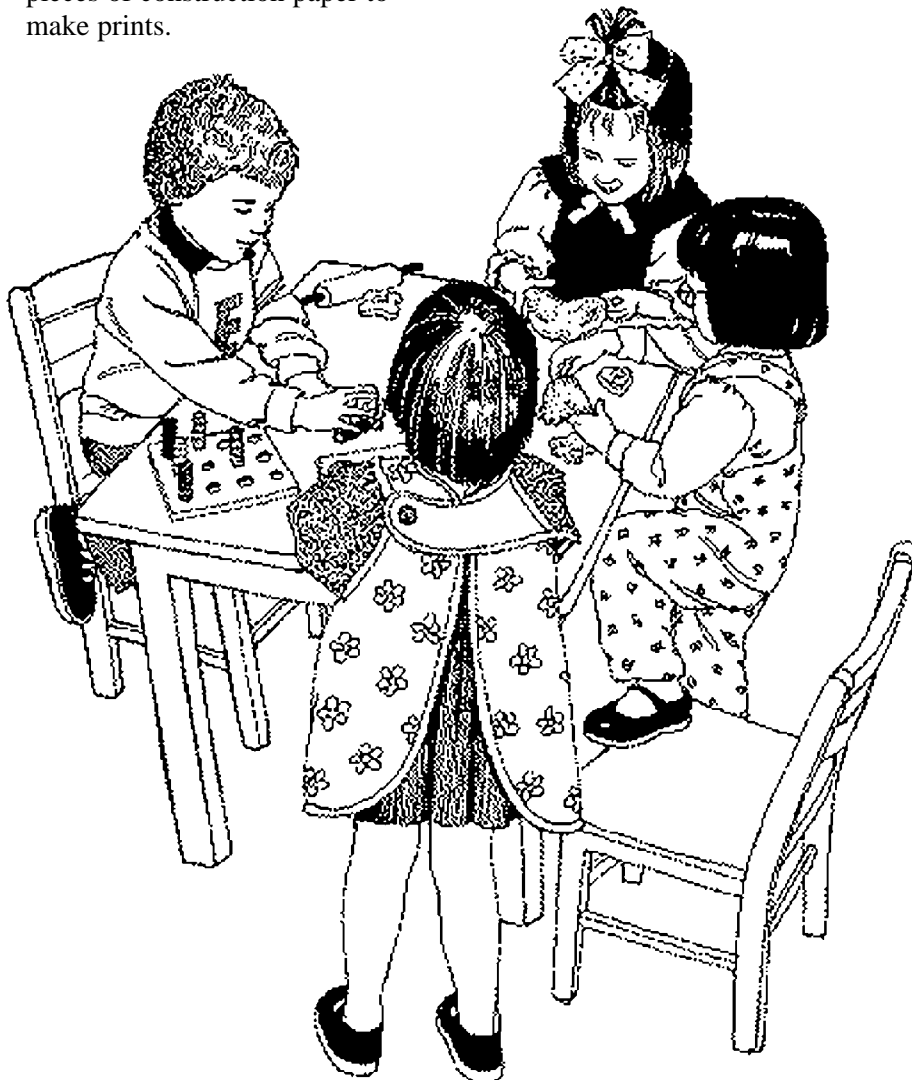
## PEANUT-SHELL FINGER PUPPETS

What can you do with peanut shells after you enjoy eating the peanuts? Use them to make puppets! Get out the markers and have children draw faces and hair and put on a peanut puppet show. You can add to the fun with other art materials such as little pieces of yarn or colored construction paper to glue on as hair or hats.

## SPAGHETTI TOPPER GAME

Take an uncooked strand of spaghetti and a small ball of play dough. Stand the spaghetti upright in the play dough (you can break the spaghetti in half to make it easier for children). Pour circle-shaped toasted oat cereal into a bowl. The children can take turns putting a piece of cereal on the spaghetti strand, being careful not to break the piece of spaghetti. Encourage counting as children work together.

**Caution:** These activities are for older preschool children. Be aware that young children can easily choke on peanut shells and uncooked spaghetti, and cereal. Children need to be watched carefully when doing these activities.



## POTATO HOP

Cut ten large potato shapes out of brown construction paper or from brown paper bags and number them from 1 to 10. Tape the shapes to the floor in the proper order. Sing the following song as children take turns hopping from one potato to the other.

*One potato, two potato,*

*Three potato, four,*

*Five potato, six potato,*

*Seven potato, more.*

*Eight potato, nine potato,*

*Here is ten.*

*Now let's start all over again.*



## PLAY RESTAURANT

Simple materials you have around the house can help children play “restaurant.” Use old dress-up clothing to go out to dinner, an apron for the chef or servers, recycled paper or magazines to make menus, and pretend food or clean, empty food containers to encourage cooking. Children can use play cookware or clean pots and pans and utensils from the kitchen to create special “meals.” A small table or boxes work for serving. Set the stage for children and they will have hours of fun pretending to be adults in the real world.



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## FUNNY FACES (ART YOU CAN EAT!)

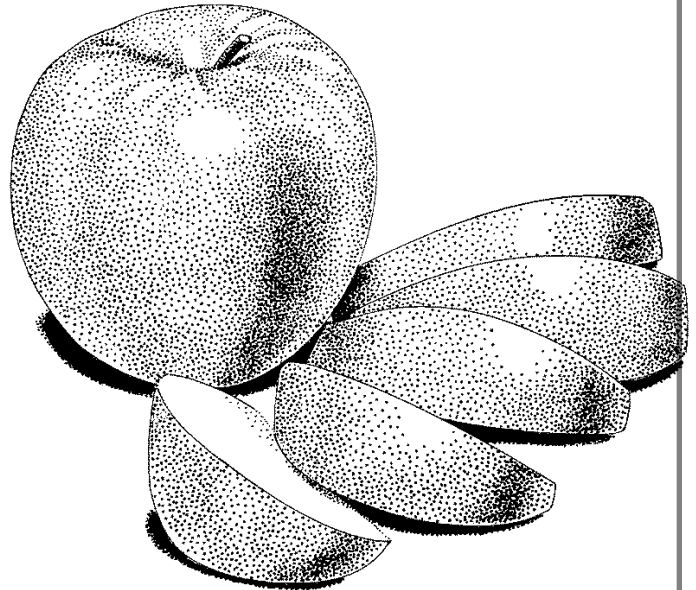
*What you need:*

Paper plate

Snack fixings (round crackers, peanut butter, raisins, cheese, carrot slices or sticks, apple slices)

*What you do:*

Talk to the children and explain that they are going to make faces for snack today. Give each child a paper plate. Encourage them to use the snack fixings for different parts of the face. Ask, “What can we use to make eyes? Nose? Mouth? Hair? Ears?” After they design their edible art faces, let the children look and talk about what everyone made, and then enjoy snack time together.



**Caution:** Be aware that infants and young children can choke easily on some foods, such as peanut butter, raw fruits, and vegetables. Offer smaller amounts prepared in forms that are easy for them to chew and swallow. Watch children carefully when they are eating these foods.

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