

# Handprint Gift

**Purpose:** The purpose of this material is to provide children with the opportunity to create a Valentine's Day gift for someone special. In the process, the children will also have the opportunity to practice expressive language skills, make connections between spoken and written language and, of course, build fine motor control.

## **Preparation:**

Print out a copy of the following page for each child. If children need more than one copy (e.g., if they want to make a gift for more than one person), no problem! Just print out as many copies as they need. In addition, fold paper towels in shallow dishes and soak with red, purple and/or pink paint.

## **Use:**

Put the paper on the table so the heart is upside-down when they look at it. Then, have the children press their hands in either red, purple or pink paint (their choice). Help them make their thumbs and pointer fingers touch. This will create a heart shape in the space between their hands. While keeping all the remaining fingers together, have the children press their hands inside the heart. Allow the paint to dry and then invite each child to dictate a special "message" to the recipient of the valentine for you to print on the lines on the sheet. If the child is more advanced, he/she can print his/her name on the line at the bottom. If not, you can do this for the child. Either way, be sure to talk about letters and sound while doing so.





Name

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