

Making a Ruler Instructions

Ages 1-6

Materials Needed:

- 1—Wooden paint stir stick
- 1 each—9-12 colored pencils, i.e. red, yellow, blue, dark green, orange, purple, black, light green, pink
- 3—sheet of ruler patterns or purchased ruler

Instructions:

1. Place the wooden paint stir stick over the ruler pattern
2. Using a different color for each inch mark, make a dot at the place each inch would be on the wooden paint stick.
3. Using the appropriate color and the straight edge of a paper, piece of cardboard, or a ruler, extend the inch lines across the entire width of the wooden paint stir.
4. Using the appropriate color, write the number of the inch mark on the same side of each line.
5. Draw only inch marks for 1-3 year old children.
6. When the child grasps the concept of the inch, add the 1/2-inch marks using black only.
7. When the child grasps the concept of the 1/2 inch marks, add the 1/4-inch marks using the same color for all 1/4-inch marks.
8. Encourage the child to measure everything with his/her new tool.

Project Expanded into Additional Subjects:

1. Math: Counting
2. Math: Fractions of 1/2 and 1/4
3. Art: Colors
4. Literature: Stories related to measuring, tools, building, carpenters.

