

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Family Child Care Home Education Network (FCCHEN)
Parent and Provider Resource: Activities for Distance Learning

Self-Identity and Diversity

The following activity will support your child's learning while they are at home. Talk to your child and ask questions as you play. As your child listens to you, your child builds language and social skills, further reinforcing the concepts you are teaching. Match activities to your child's favorite books, songs, or toys to make them more meaningful learning experiences. Visit our website at www.chs-ca.org and click on the News and Events tab for more learning resources.

SCHOOL-AGE - Activity: Exploring Fingerprints

What you need:

- Fingerprint cards: 3" x 5" white index cards or white paper cut into equal sized squares
- Black ink pad (or a black washable marker and newspaper)
- Pen or pencil to label the fingerprint card
- Magnifying glass
- Yellow highlighter or colored pencil
- [Fingerprint Worksheet](#)

What to do:

- You will need the thumb prints of at least two people for this activity
- Place the fingerprint cards and ink pad on a table
- If you do not have an ink pad, you can use a black washable marker and newspaper to create one. Color a spot larger than the thumb on the newspaper until the paper is soaked with ink, but not tearing. Children can press their thumb firmly on top of the ink and then press it onto the white paper
- Ask children to make prints of their thumbs by pressing them on the ink pad and then on the cards
- Each child can label their fingerprint card with their name
- Let children use the magnifying glass to see how the prints are alike and different
- Use the [Fingerprint Worksheet](#) to guide children in identifying typical patterns and introduce vocabulary related to identifying fingerprints
- Invite children to use the highlighter or yellow pencil to identify any repeating patterns on each print
- Point out that everyone has patterns on the skin of their fingers and that each person's fingerprints are unique. This is why fingerprints can identify who we are

What the activity does:

- Increases awareness of self and others
- Practices observation skills
- Explores similarities and differences in patterns
- Introduces the concept that identification of people can include characteristics that are not easily visible



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