

LITTLE CRITTERS

HOME ACTIVITIES



GET CRITTER CRAFTY

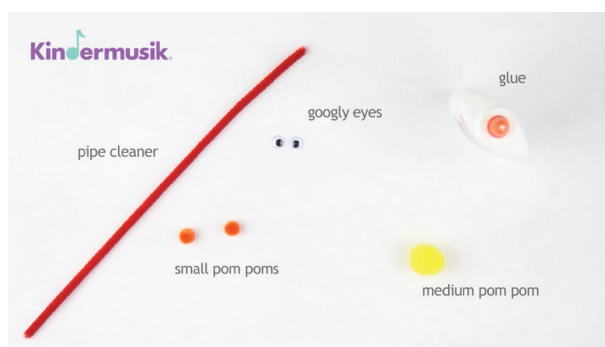
Although bugs may scare many adults, kiddos (usually) aren't afraid of them. After all, little critters have lots of interesting things to look at: legs, antennae, bright colors. It's why there are several hit children's movies showing things from an insect's point of view. So, set aside any distaste you have for "creepy crawlies," and engage in some critter-oriented fun with your child! (Don't worry—we aren't suggesting that fleas, mosquitoes, and other potentially harmful creatures be new family friends. They're off limits!)

GET STARTED: Bring Bugs to Life

Our pipe cleaner finger puppets can be twisted, bent, and decorated to look like anything your little one dreams up. The plastic spoon bugs can result in more lifelike insects, but don't be afraid to let creativity take over. It's all about interpretation and imagination!



Insect Finger Puppets - What You'll Need:



Tap the icon to view step-by-step instructions for making insect finger puppets.

Plastic Spoon Bugs - What You'll Need:



Tap the icon to view step-by-step instructions for making plastic spoon bugs.

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Ready for something a little more advanced?
Let's keep the fun going with these artsy
interpretations of some of the world's
most famous crawling critters.



WIGGLE WHILE YOU WORK

SING ALONG: “Flea, Fly, Mosquito”

Start the music and join the children's voices that echo the adult's voice. Soon enough, you'll be able to chant and sing the lyrics in a back-and-forth way without musical accompaniment. What a great way to set the mood as you work on your critter art!



Tap the icon to listen
to Kindermusik's “Flea,
Fly, Mosquito.”

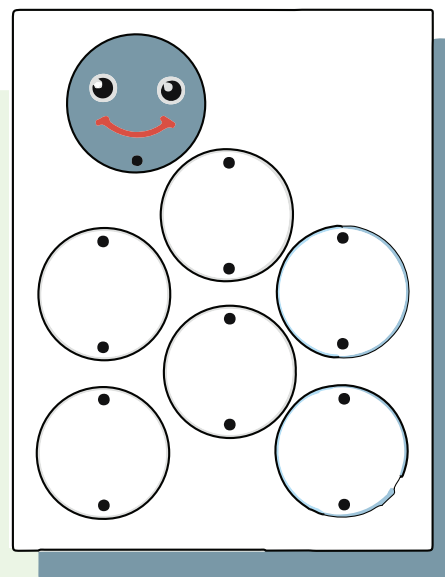
Colorful Caterpillar

What you'll need:

- Sturdy piece of paper with 7 circles drawn on it
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Metal paper fasteners
- Markers, crayons, or paint

What you'll do:

- Use markers, crayons, or paint to decorate the circles (don't forget the caterpillar's face!).
- Cut out all of the caterpillar circles.
- Punch holes in the pieces as indicated by the black dots.
- Connect the pieces as indicated by the black dots.



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Costumes are a great way to bring your little one's imagination to life. Look in your Halloween stockpile to see if you have any bugs, critter or fairy costumes on hand. If not, get creative! You'll be amazed what paper bags and face paint can do to transform your child into a fun creepy crawlie friend. Then, enjoy listening to Kindermusik songs and acting out the sounds and movements of your special critter!



LET IMAGINATIONS CRAWL

Dangling Spider

What you'll need:

- Pom poms
- Googly eyes
- Or, a piece of paper (to draw spider face)
- Paper plate
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Glue or tape
- String or yarn
- Markers, crayons, or paint
- 8 pipe cleaners



Tap the icon to listen to Kindermusik's "Eensy Weensy Spider."



What you'll do:

- Cut a large hole in the center of the plate.
- Punch holes around the outer edge of the plate and thread string to create a web.
- Use pom poms and googly eyes to create a spider face, or cut a paper circle and decorate a spider face with markers and crayons.
- Attach pipe cleaner legs from body to edge of plate with glue or tape.
- Tie a string into a loop from one of the holes at the top of your web.
- Hang your spider anywhere you like!

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Have you worked up an appetite yet? It's time to make some tasty critter snacks! Choose from something sweet or something savory...let your little chef decide! As you prepare a snack, enjoy listening to the Kindermusik version of the classic, "The Ants Go Marching." Don't miss the opportunity to point out that the ants keep marching in bigger and bigger numbers: 1 by 1, 2 by 2, 3 by 3, and so on.

SERVE UP SOME GRUB

Worms in Dirt

What you'll need:

- 2 cups milk
- 1 package instant chocolate pudding
- 8 ounces frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 1/2 cups sandwich cookies, crushed
- Gummy worms & plastic cups



What you'll do:

- Whisk together milk and pudding until completely dissolved. Let stand 5 minutes.
- Stir in whipped topping and 1/2 of the crushed cookies.
- Put this mixture into cups.
- Top with the other 1/2 of the cookies.
- Add gummy worms on top and enjoy!

Ants on a Log

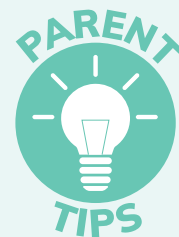
What you'll need:

- Celery
- Peanut butter or cream cheese
- Raisins or other dried fruit



What you'll do:

- Fill celery stalks with your choice of creamy spread.
- Add the raisins as "ants."



FINGERPLAY SPARKS LEARNING

Fingerplays like "Eensy Weensy Spider" are more than just a fun way to engage with a little one. They're a brain boosting activity! Motions that involve both hands are doubly beneficial, as moving the two sides of the body activates the two hemispheres of the brain. The more both hemispheres are accessed, the more learning occurs.



Tap the icon to listen to Kindermusik's "The Ants Go Marching."



Listen to this week's songs as well as dozens of additional Kindermusik favorites on the new (and totally **FREE**) Kindermusik app. Available for download in the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).