

Hello everyone!

Hope you are all well and keeping safe during these challenging times.

My name is Donna, I'm an Early Years Practitioner and I facilitate our Stay & Play sessions.

I thought it would be a nice to keep in touch with you all by sharing some very simple activities you can all do together at home.

Hope you enjoy getting creative and having fun making this Elmer Elephant



What is my child learning whilst making an Elmer Elephant?

Motor skills - children are developing their fine and gross motor skills, using scissors to cut, pens to decorate their Elmer, hands and arms to tear the paper for Elmer.

Hand Eye Co-ordination - it takes practice to link up what the eyes and hands are doing in order to accurately stick the paper and eyes on to Elmer.

Language and communication skills - they will be talking about their elephant, discussing what they are doing, why not tell the story of Elmer the elephant?

Problem solving - how will they attach the ears to their Elmer? what will you use for eyes?

Early Maths - count the number of eyes and ears Elmer has, how many pieces of paper does it takes to cover the body of Elmer.

Early writing skills - children will be developing their early writing skills whilst using their fine and gross motor skills tearing and cutting the paper during this activity.

Imagination and social skills - while retelling the story of Elmer and playing with others with their Elmer.

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Make an Elmer Elephant

Materials Needed:

- Milk carton
- Scissors
- Pens
- Tissue or any other paper you like, cut into small pieces, you can colour paper different colours then cut them into small pieces to use in place of tissue paper.
- Any kind of card for the ears.



Method:

- Draw a line around the top of the carton and two small half moons on either side (as show in picture).
- Stand the milk jug up and cut into it just below the handle, you may need to assist children when cutting, this will form the elephant's trunk. Then cut off the entire bottom half of the jug and cut four legs into it, and a little tail. (as show in Picture)
- The ears were made by cutting two pieces of card into semi circles, with a tab at the bottom so you can bend it and glue onto the body. Children may find it easier to stick the colours onto the ears before attaching them.
- The eyes were simply white circles cut from card, with black pupils drawn on.



More Elmer fun!

Find more activities on the Elmer website

<https://www.elmer.co.uk/activities/>

David McKee reads Elmer the Elephant

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFrD18XLmIM>

Learn the Elmer song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ouh8EZwtlvM>

All done and looking oh-so-cute! These make great puppets or story-telling props.