

## DIY Paper Plate Hippopotamus

### What you will need:

- 2 paper plates
- Gray and pink paint, marker, or crayon
- Gray and white cardstock or paper
- Googly eyes
- Black marker
- Glue
- Scissors

### Directions:

1. Trim the sides of both of your paper plates to make each of them more of an oval shape.
2. Fold one of the paper plates in half. This will be the hippo mouth. Unfold that plate and paint/color the bottom of each plate gray.
3. Once it is completely dry, turn the mouth paper plate over, and paint it pink. Let it dry completely before moving on.
4. Next fold the mouth paper plate in half with the gray showing on top and glue it to the bottom of the face paper plate.
5. Cut two nose nostrils out of gray paper and glue them on the top of the mouth. Then cut ears out of your gray paper and glue them onto the back of the face. Next, glue large googly eyes on the hippo face.
6. Use a black marker to draw the little whisker holes on top of the hippo's mouth.
7. For the teeth, cut strips of white cardstock paper with one side rounded. Make a small fold at the straight end of the tooth and glue them down inside the mouth. Spread the top ones apart and put the bottom ones together so the mouth closes easier.

**\*\*Use caution when handling scissors with young children. Use child-safe scissors, supervision, or do the cutting for them, as needed. \*\***

### Ways to increase difficulty:

- Instead of using the paper plates, let your child cut two same oval shapes on the cardstock as the head of the hippo.
- Draw the eyes instead of using the googly eyes.

### Ways to decrease the difficulty:

- Help your child to fold the paper plates in half if they have difficulty with folding.



- Help your child to cut strips or draw on the paper for the strips before they cut them.

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