

**Exceptional Education / SUNY, Buffalo State**  
**Instructional activity assignment - in lieu of the service learning assignment**  
**Kathy R. Doody, Ph.D.**

Paper Plate Snails

**Targeted skills:** Fine Motor skills and identifying patterns



It is important for young children to strengthen their fine motor skills through practicing things such as using scissors, sorting, and holding a marker. These skills are needed in daily life. Identifying patterns will be important as they grow in school. Patterns are all around us, on clothes, in math, and in the way people follow a routine is like a pattern.

**Materials required (include price, quantity required, and links to follow to order materials):**

- Paper plate (1 per snail)-

Amazon \$9.89

[https://www.amazon.com/Empress-Uncoated-Paper-Plate-Inches/dp/B0044S1CDS/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?dchild=1&keywords=white+paper+plates&qid=1588527297&sr=8-2](https://www.amazon.com/Empress-Uncoated-Paper-Plate-Inches/dp/B0044S1CDS/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=white+paper+plates&qid=1588527297&sr=8-2)

Target \$5.89

<https://www.target.com/p/coated-paper-plates-9-120ct-smartly-8482/-/A-13971860>

- Beads, Cheerios, buttons (as many as the child wants, a good handful)-



Amazon \$6.59-\$9.59

[https://www.amazon.com/Pony-Beads-Multi-Color-1000/dp/B004D9DMMW/ref=sxin\\_3\\_ac\\_d\\_rm?ac\\_md=0-0-Y3JhZnQgYmVhZHM%3D-ac\\_d\\_rm&cv\\_ct\\_cx=craft+beads&dchild=1&keywords=craft+beads&pd\\_rd\\_i=B004D9DMMW&pd\\_rd\\_r=628b1627-2fa2-4f70-b8bf-7607a6e7576f&pd\\_rd\\_w=Rz6WM&pd\\_rd\\_wg=VLKvz&pf\\_rd\\_p=a0516f22-66df-4efd-8b9a-279a864d1512&pf\\_rd\\_r=6RC6KW5JME1CRSKT5BYN&psc=1&qid=1588527571&sr=1-1-12d4272d-8adb-4121-8624-135149aa9081](https://www.amazon.com/Pony-Beads-Multi-Color-1000/dp/B004D9DMMW/ref=sxin_3_ac_d_rm?ac_md=0-0-Y3JhZnQgYmVhZHM%3D-ac_d_rm&cv_ct_cx=craft+beads&dchild=1&keywords=craft+beads&pd_rd_i=B004D9DMMW&pd_rd_r=628b1627-2fa2-4f70-b8bf-7607a6e7576f&pd_rd_w=Rz6WM&pd_rd_wg=VLKvz&pf_rd_p=a0516f22-66df-4efd-8b9a-279a864d1512&pf_rd_r=6RC6KW5JME1CRSKT5BYN&psc=1&qid=1588527571&sr=1-1-12d4272d-8adb-4121-8624-135149aa9081)

[https://www.amazon.com/LW-Colorful-Assorted-Childrens-Painting/dp/B082W5J4FP/ref=sr\\_1\\_27\\_sspa?dchild=1&keywords=craft+buttons&qid=1588527656&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-27-spons&psc=1&spLa=ZW5jcnlwdGVkUXVhbGlmaWVvPUEyQjUyOFVISjIMM0ZHJmVuY3J5cHRIZEIkPUEwNjE2NzE2MVRLWFNJMIg2UUlKVCZlbmNyeXB0ZW RBZEIkPUEwMDI0ODEwKwY3M1pOVjVZRURQJndpZGdIdE5hbWU9c3BfYnRmJmFjdGlvbj1jbGlja1JlZGlyZWN0JmRvTm90TG9nQ2xpY2s9dHJ1ZQ==](https://www.amazon.com/LW-Colorful-Assorted-Childrens-Painting/dp/B082W5J4FP/ref=sr_1_27_sspa?dchild=1&keywords=craft+buttons&qid=1588527656&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-27-spons&psc=1&spLa=ZW5jcnlwdGVkUXVhbGlmaWVvPUEyQjUyOFVISjIMM0ZHJmVuY3J5cHRIZEIkPUEwNjE2NzE2MVRLWFNJMIg2UUlKVCZlbmNyeXB0ZW RBZEIkPUEwMDI0ODEwKwY3M1pOVjVZRURQJndpZGdIdE5hbWU9c3BfYnRmJmFjdGlvbj1jbGlja1JlZGlyZWN0JmRvTm90TG9nQ2xpY2s9dHJ1ZQ==)

Target \$3.79

<https://www.target.com/p/cheerios-whole-grain-oat-breakfast-cereal-18oz-general-mills/-/A-12935577>



- Paper (one per snail for head)-

Amazon \$1.17

[https://www.amazon.com/Construction-Assorted-Heavyweight-painting-9CPAS/dp/B07SXBSHCY/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?dchild=1&keywords=construction+paper&qid=1588528041&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-2](https://www.amazon.com/Construction-Assorted-Heavyweight-painting-9CPAS/dp/B07SXBSHCY/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=construction+paper&qid=1588528041&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-2)

Target \$4.99

<https://www.target.com/p/crayola-240-page-construction-paper-12-assorted-colors/-/A-16693485>



- Pipe cleaner (one per snail)-

Amazon \$1.99

<https://www.amazon.com/Supplies-Cleaners-Chenille-Twistable->



[Children/dp/B07L4QS9MQ/ref=sr\\_1\\_8?cid=3EUYLBVTDIZ48&dchild=1&keywords=pipe+cleaners+arts+and+crafts&qid=1588528144&s=arts-crafts&sprefix=pipe+clea%2Carts-crafts%2C296&sr=1-8](Children/dp/B07L4QS9MQ/ref=sr_1_8?cid=3EUYLBVTDIZ48&dchild=1&keywords=pipe+cleaners+arts+and+crafts&qid=1588528144&s=arts-crafts&sprefix=pipe+clea%2Carts-crafts%2C296&sr=1-8)

- Marker, crayon or colored pencil (one per snail, or more as pleased)-

Amazon \$5.00



[https://www.amazon.com/Crayola-Rotuladores-lavables-l%C3%ADquidos/dp/B00006IJFJ/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=markers&qid=1588528223&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Crayola-Rotuladores-lavables-l%C3%ADquidos/dp/B00006IJFJ/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=markers&qid=1588528223&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-1)

Target \$1.99

<https://www.target.com/p/10ct-broad-tip-markers-classic-colors-up-38-up-8482/-/A-15022622>



Glue (one):

Amazon \$3.09

[https://www.amazon.com/Prang-Stick-Small-Ounces-15083/dp/B00290JBLI/ref=sr\\_1\\_12?dchild=1&keywords=glue+stick&qid=1588528375&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-12](https://www.amazon.com/Prang-Stick-Small-Ounces-15083/dp/B00290JBLI/ref=sr_1_12?dchild=1&keywords=glue+stick&qid=1588528375&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-12)

Target \$2.89

<https://www.target.com/p/elmer-39-s-6ct-washable-glue-sticks-disappearing-purple/-/A-17088992>

Googly eyes:

Amazon \$5.78

[https://www.amazon.com/Creativity-Street-Wiggle-Multi-Pack-AC3437-02/dp/B000F8V66O?ref\\_=fsclp\\_pl\\_dp\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/Creativity-Street-Wiggle-Multi-Pack-AC3437-02/dp/B000F8V66O?ref_=fsclp_pl_dp_1)



Target \$1.99

<https://www.target.com/p/kid-made-modern-52ct-self-stick-googly-eyes/-/A-75573670>

#### Instructions:

1. Gather all the materials, paper plate, beads or what you are decorating with, markers, paper, googly eyes and glue.
2. Take your paper plate and start decorating

Your child can decorate in lots of different ways with the beads or buttons. See if your child can make a pattern on the plate, either by creating a swirl as shown in the pictures, or by creating rows of patterns across the plate.

Your child can also use markers, crayons or pencils to the plate to make it unique.

3. While your snail's shell dries, you can start working on creating his head. Take your colored paper or any paper you have and cut a medium sized circle.
4. Take your circle and put glue on one half of the front side.
5. Next stick the glued section to the back of the plate, where it is empty. You should see the other half of your circle sticking out of the "shell."
6. Then take any colored pipe cleaner and cut off two small pieces to create the stems for the eyes.

7. Glue the pipe cleaners to the top of the snail's head. You will paste them on the back, just like you did with the head.
8. Next glue on the googly eyes to the tops of the pipe cleaners.
9. Lastly, draw on a smiley face and enjoy your new snail!

**Modifications that may need to be made based on child's needs (list at least 2-3)**

One modification that can be made based on the child's needs is to have the parent or guardian, precut the head and pipe cleaners to make it less frustrating for the child. This way the child can paste them on with little frustration, if scissors are difficult. Another modification is to use larger beads or buttons for the design. This will allow little fingers or children who struggle with their fine motor skills to grab onto the beads or buttons more easily and again lessen frustration. A modification that can be made to make this activity more challenging is to either use smaller beads or buttons to focus on those fine motor skills or to have the child create a pattern within the swirl of the shell. This will strengthen the fine motor skills, as well as the cognitive domain to keep them thinking.

**Notes - what existing skills are required to complete activity? What skills would follow?**

Some skills that are required are being able to use scissors or having an adult to help assist with the use of scissors and guide the child in practicing using scissors. A skill that may follow this activity is the recognition of patterns if the child tries to make a pattern on the shell. Also, practicing using scissors, holding the marker to draw the face and placing the beads or buttons where the child desires will strengthen their fine motor abilities.

**Include a photo of materials, completed activity, game, etc.**



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**Checklist**

**Targeted skill**

- Identify one or two targeted skills
- Justification – explain why this skill important for young children

**Materials required**

**include price, quantity required, and links to follow to order materials**

- Price for each required item
- Quantities required
- Links to ordering information

**Instructions**

- Step-by- step
- Specific and detailed

**Modifications**

- Identify at least 2-3 modifications
- Justify and explain why modifications were selected

**Notes**

- Lists prior skill(s) necessary for completion of activity
- List skill(s) to follow

**Photo**

- Photo(s) included

**Comments/feedback:**