

# Actual Size Kid

This is an activity for two or more people.

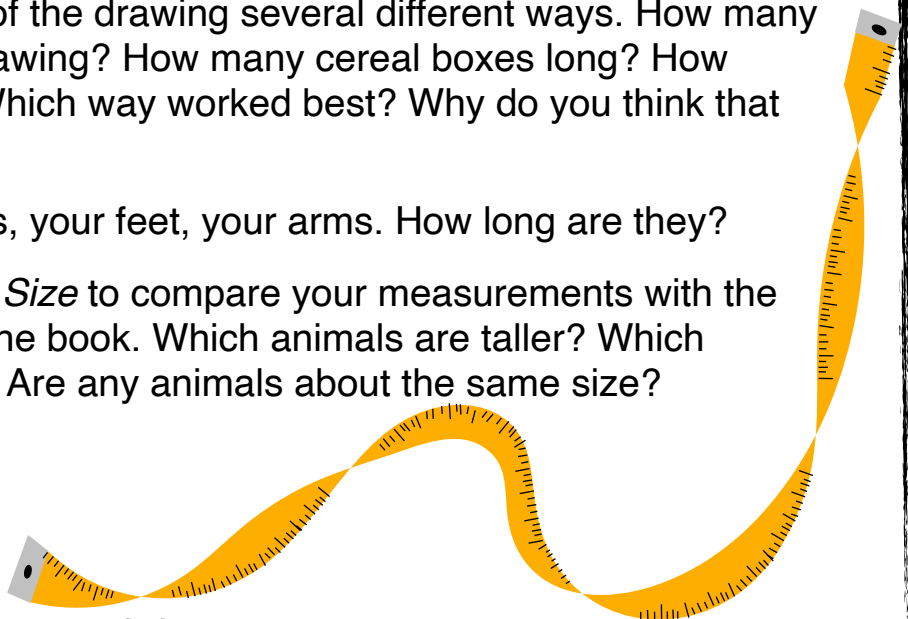
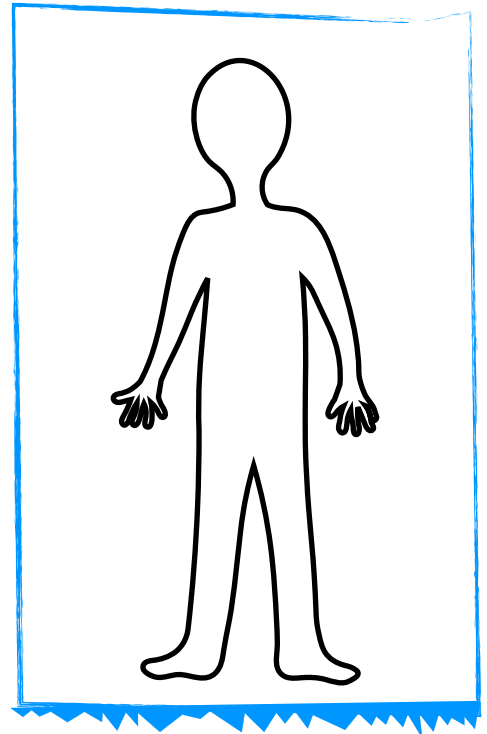
**Goal:** Explore and compare different measurements and measurement tools.

**You will need:**

- A large piece of paper
- Markers or crayons
- A tape measure and nonstandard measuring tools (such as cans, toy cars, shoes)

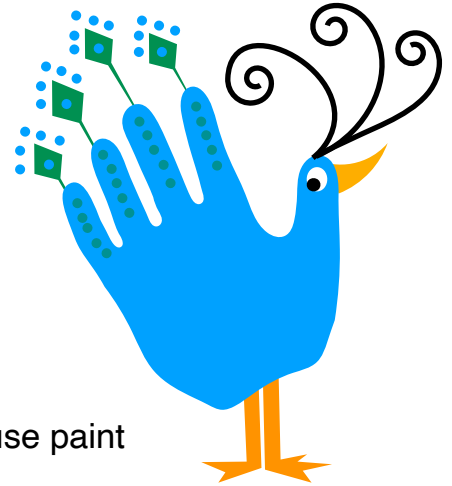
**What to do (3 & up):**

- Lie down on a very large piece of paper
- Ask someone to draw an outline of your body on the paper.
- Draw your face, hair, and clothing. Make the outline look like you!
- Measure the height of the drawing several different ways. How many inches long is the drawing? How many cereal boxes long? How many shoes long? Which way worked best? Why do you think that is?
- Measure your fingers, your feet, your arms. How long are they?
- Use the book *Actual Size* to compare your measurements with the animals featured in the book. Which animals are taller? Which animals are shorter? Are any animals about the same size?



# Actual Size Handprint

**Goal:** A handprint can become all sorts of things. With some imagination, fingers can become the branches of a tree, the legs of a monkey, or the feathers of a peacock. Use your hand and your child's hand to count, compare sizes, and make some art.



## You will need:

- Paper
- Markers or water soluble, non-toxic paint
- Water and hand cleaning supplies if you decide to use paint

## What to do (Infants & Toddlers):

- Decide if you will draw hands or paint hands and use them as a stamp.
- Gather markers or paint and paper.
- Begin by counting your baby's fingers, pointing and counting each one as you count out loud from one to five. Count your own fingers too and help baby point to each of your fingers as you count out loud.
- Use markers to trace the outline of your baby's and your own hand or dip your or your baby's palms and fingers into paint and stamp your hand print onto paper.
- Start by comparing your hand and your baby's hand. Talk about how the hand prints are the same and how they are different. Perhaps they are a similar shape, but there is a big difference in size. This might sound like, "Look, we both have five fingers, but your hand is much smaller than my hand." You might talk about all of the things that small hands do well, for example, picking up small objects, reaching into snug places, and waving hello and goodbye.
- Use the outline of your baby's hand to make handprint art. Be creative and encourage your baby to add some details too. Talk about what you add to the picture. For example, "Four of your fingers are becoming the legs of an elephant. Your thumb will become the elephant's trunk. Let's add two eyes and two really big ears to this drawing." Have fun changing handprints into animals, plants, and cartoons.

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## You will need:

- An outline of your child's hand
- Marker or crayons

## What to do (Infants & Toddlers):

- Count your baby's fingers, touch each one as you count out loud from one to five. Count your own fingers too and help baby touch each of your fingers as you count out loud.
- Compare your hand and your baby's hand. Talk about how the hand prints are the same and how they are different. Perhaps they are a similar shape, but there is a big difference in size. This might sound like, "Look, we both have five fingers, but your hand is much smaller than my hand." You might talk about all of the things that small hands do well, for example, picking up small objects, reaching into snug places, and waving hello and goodbye.
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