



Snake Finger Puppet

Snakes come in a variety of sizes, colors, and patterns. These features are often a result of where they live and the life they lead—from bright red ring patterns to warn predators they are venomous or long, thin, green bodies to blend into the vines of a tree. Take your snake’s lifestyle into consideration as you design your own snake finger puppet.

Materials

Snake template (page 2)
Paper
Scissors

Tape
Colored markers
Decoration materials (optional)

Directions

1. **Print and cut out** the snake template (page 2) that will fit your finger, “shedding” the unused paper. As snakes grow, their skin does not, so they shed their outer layer of skin when they get too big. Have you ever seen a snake shed?
2. **Decorate** your snake using markers or other crafting supplies. When considering your snake’s features, think about:
 - a. What color will it be? Snakes with bright colors are warning predators to “stay away!” while black, brown, tan, or reddish brown skin can help a snake blend into its surroundings and hide from predators.
 - b. Will the scales have a pattern or will they be all one color? Does the snake live in a rocky open space or the lush green tree branches of a jungle? How might that change the snake’s color and pattern so it could camouflage to stay safe?
 - c. How does your snake sense? Include eyes and a tongue. Snakes don’t see with their eyes very well, but they have a great sense of smell: They flick their forked tongues to pick up chemicals in the air, which then go to their Jacobson's Organ—a special organ in their mouth which tells the snake’s brain what it senses.

3. **Cut out** your snake.
4. **Place** the snake's head on top of your fingernail and the body laying down your finger and onto the back of your hand.
5. **Fold and tape** the 2 small flaps on the side of the head together over your fingertip and the tabs around your finger.
6. **Show off** your ssssnake!

