



Toddler Extra Activities



1. Stacking octopus

You will need

4 Toilet rolls

Paint: red, yellow, blue, green

Scissors

Marker pen

Googly eyes (with glue) or stickers for eyes

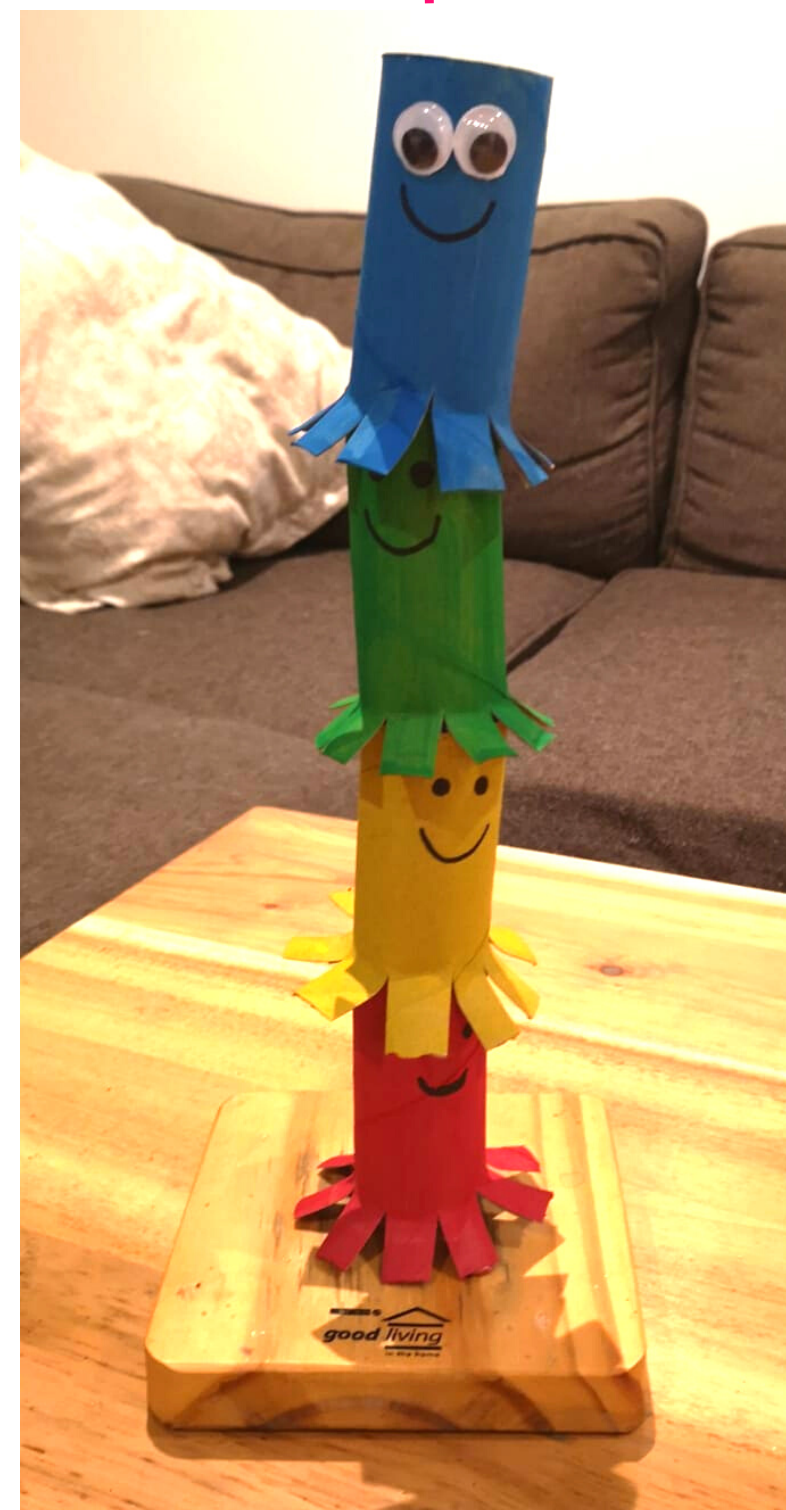
Stick (paper towel holder or even a wooden spoon)



If your toddler is older you can incorporate more colours. Add in a pink, purple, or orange octopus!

Method:

1. Paint each toilet roll a different colour.
2. When dry, snip the bottom part of the toilet roll into lots of octopus tentacles and bend them outwards a bit.
3. Draw a face on the octopus using the marker.
4. Paste on googly eyes or stick on your sticker eyes.
5. Let your toddler practice putting the octopus onto the stick and stacking them.
6. Once they have had some time to explore and play freely you can start incorporating naming the colours. For example ask them to place the red octopus on first and then the blue one. You can also ask them "where is the yellow octopus?"



As a challenge for older toddlers, draw a colour sequence, and show your toddler how to stack in a colour sequence.



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2. Sponge octopus

You will need:

Sponges (Flat rectangular ones work best)

Scissors

Elastic bands

A few different colours of paint.

Several pieces of paper or newspaper.

Containers for the different paints

Marker pen



Method:

1. Prepare your space for some paint painting fun by spreading your papers or newspapers out.
2. Cut the sponge into strips.
3. Put a few of the strips of sponges together and place an elastic band around the center to secure it. You now have a sponge octopus. You can make more than one of these if you would like.
4. Set out different colour paints in different containers.
5. Show your child how to dip the sponge in the paint and press it onto a paper.
6. Talk about the different colours while your toddler makes octopus prints.
7. Finish them off by drawing on the head and the face.

When the print is dry, you can draw on eyes and make dots on the Legs to resemble an octopus.



For older toddlers you can explore mixing colours. See how red and yellow makes an orange octopus! And how you get a green octopus from blue and yellow!



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Toddler Extra Activities



3. Colour treasure hunt

You will need:

Octopus from main activity

4 pieces of coloured paper

(red, yellow, blue, green)

Items from around the house.

Method:

1. Choose a colour for the day.
2. Place a piece of paper this colour (e.g. red) on the octopus' tummy.
3. Go on a 'treasure hunt' around the house to look for items of that colour. Be sure to go into lots of different rooms!
4. Put the matching items you have found onto the page on the octopus' tummy.
5. Go on a new colour treasure hunt when your toddler can identify the first colour.

If your toddler manages well with the four colours mentioned try including other colours in your treasure hunt!



Remember to make it fun! Your child learns best when they are playing! Tell them that their octopus wants only red treasure, for example, and that he will not accept anything that isn't red. Bring their octopus to life as he accepts red treasure and refuses any other colour for that day!

