

*the*  
**CURIOUS  
CARDINAL**

**ACTIVITY GUIDE**

**Alliance  
Theatre**

kathy & ken  
bernhardt **THEATRE FOR  
THE  
VERY YOUNG**

## OTTER PAPER BAG PUPPET

### Supplies:

- Otter template (on page 7)
- Brown paper lunch bag
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers, crayons, or other coloring supplies

### Instructions:

1. Print the otter template and color in all of the body parts.
2. Cut out the otter body parts (head, arms, legs, and tail).
3. Glue the body parts to your paper bag. Add any finishing touches to make your otter come to life!
4. Take your otter on a swim! Maybe catch a frog for lunch!



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## SINK OR FLOAT?

Our Curious Cardinal jumps into the water to find he cannot swim and sinks to the bottom! Luckily, Otter rescues his little friend and they float along the lazy river. With a grownup, fill a sink, container, or bathtub with water. For extra fun, add a few drops of blue food coloring and pebbles to give the effect of river water. Collect items from around the house and test the buoyancy, or if it will float in water.

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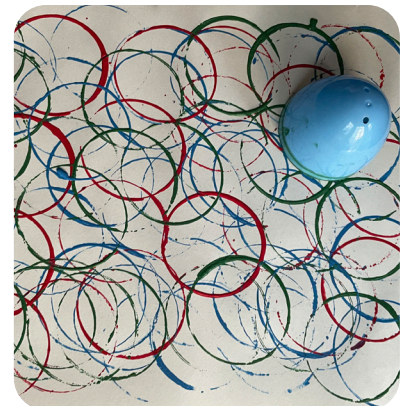
## PATTERN PAINTING WITH PLASTIC EGGS

### Supplies:

- Paper
- Washable paint
- Plastic eggs

### Instructions:

Dip the open end of a plastic egg in paint and use it as a stamp to create patterns on paper. Can you create a lush landscape, a beautiful sky, or something special for a new friend?



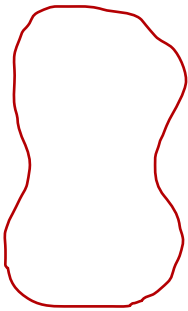
# LEARN TO DRAW THE CURIOUS CARDINAL (CC)

## Supplies:

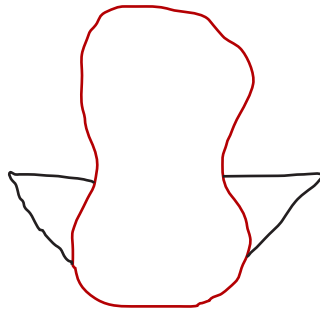
- Paper
- Markers, crayons, or other coloring supplies



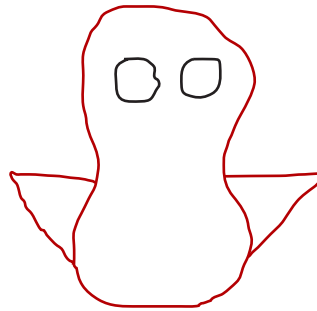
## Instructions:



1. Draw a peanut shape (this is CC's body).



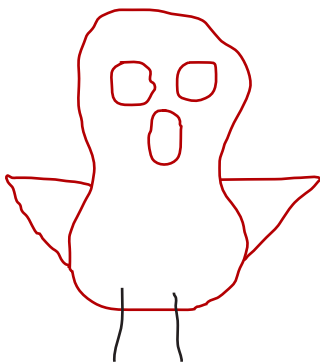
2. Add a triangle to each side of the body for CC's wings.



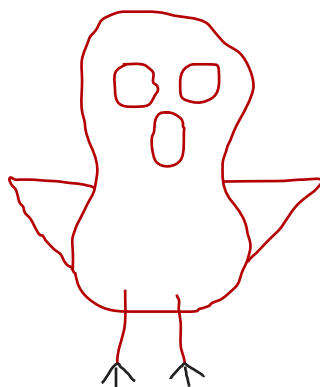
3. Draw two circles in the top half of the body for eyes.



4. Draw an oval below the eyes for CC's beak.



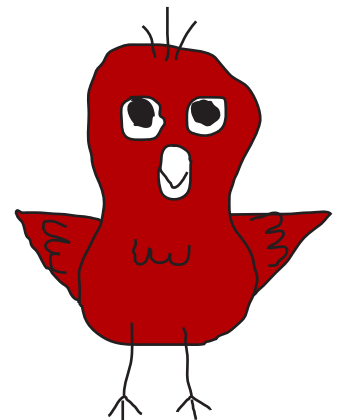
5. Draw two lines coming out of the bottom of the body for legs.



6. Add 3 small lines to the bottom of each leg to make CC's feet.



7. Add a few lines to the top of the head for CC's hair.



7. Color and add details to bring CC to life!

## SEASONAL CARDINAL HANDPRINT

### Supplies:

- Construction paper (we used blue)
- Red paint
- White paint
- Q-tips
- Brown paper (construction paper or a recycled paper bag)
- Markers, other paint colors, or crayons



### Instructions:

1. Paint your palm and fingers red and stamp onto the paper. If you point the bottom of your hand down, it'll look like your bird is looking down. If you point the bottom of your hand up, it'll look like your bird is looking up. Make sure to keep those fingers close together or your bird will look mighty frazzled!
2. Tear strips of brown paper for the branch your bird will stand on. Glue to the paper just below the side of your hand.
3. Add a beak and legs! Using orange paint or bits of orange paper, add a triangle for the beak and short lines for legs and feet. Make sure the feet touch the brown stick or your bird will be floating in the air.
4. Choose a season of the year for your cardinal. We chose Winter, and added falling snow with white paint and Q-tips as our brush. You could make Spring flowers with bits of tissue paper, or a bright yellow sun for Summer. Your choice!

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## FAMILY SONG

Mama Cardinal sings a beautiful song to her young hatchling to welcome him to the world. This tune is heard throughout the story and reminds our Curious Cardinal about his family and friends along the way. With your family, create your own tune unique to your family. Is it a series of whistles, tweets, “ooh’s” and “ahh’s”? A repeatable tune is best, so keep it simple and easy to remember. Use this tune to call to your loved ones at the park or in your home.

## VISIT FERNBANK MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Do you want to learn more about the Curious Cardinal and his forest friends? Visit the Fernbank Forest at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History. As you explore 75 acres of walking trails and forest canopy, you can imagine your own forest story just like the creators of *The Curious Cardinal*. Learn more at [fernbankmuseum.org](http://fernbankmuseum.org).

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## RECOMMENDED BOOK LIST

- *Tea Party in the Woods* by Akiko Miyakoshi
- *North, South, East, West* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *The Hike* by Alison Farrell
- *Hike* by Pete Oswald
- *In the Forest Look Up! Look Around! Look Down!* by Jaye Garnett
- *Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn* by Kenard Pak
- *Four Seasons* by Fiona Watt
- *Woodland Sounds* by Sam Taplin
- *Seasons* by Emily Bone

