

#### Introduction

Knowing what comes next is an important part of reading comprehension. Pattern recognition helps your child predict what happens next in a story, a critical skill to get your child ready to read.

One way to teach this skill is by creating stamps! These stamps are all about strengthening pattern recognition. Read on for instructions for these easy crafts!

# **Supplies - Potato Stamp**

Potato

- Knife (adults only!)
- Pen, pencil, or marker
- Paint



## **Instructions - Potato Stamp**

- 1. Wash the potato and cut in half: Thoroughly dry the potato with a paper towel and leave to dry for a while. The pain will have trouble sticking to your potato if the potato is wet.
- 2. Draw your shape on the potato: Have your child help you decide which shape to draw.
- 3. Cut out the area around the shape, so that the shape is raised: Safety first! Repeat with other half of the potato.

### **Additional Resources**

Visit Plano Public Library's official YouTube channel to view this activity and other Library Make videos

Check out our blog post about this activity at Plano Library Learns

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## **Supplies - Yarn Stamp**

• Styrofoam or floral foam

- Yarn
- Knife

Tape

Paint

### **Instructions - Yarn Stamp**

- 1. Cut the foam into a shape: You can use the foam as a stamp, but let's make it a little more fun!
- 2. Wrap your yarn around the shape: Get creative and make any type of pattern. Wrap your yarn around multiple times to create one well-defined line.



### **How to Use Your Name Puzzle**

First, introduce your child to patterns by creating a pattern yourself. Talk about the patterns and see if they can tell you what comes next. Encourage them to repeat the pattern on their own!

Once they get the hang of recognizing patterns, have them make their own patterns. Ask them questions to see if they can explain their pattern. This is a good way to boost narrative skills!

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