

# Rainbow Fish Craft

## What You'll Need:

- A paper plate (or construction paper)
- Tinfoil
- Colouring materials (markers, crayons ... whatever you have at home!)
- Glue
- Googly eyes (optional)

## Instructions:

1. Create your own rainbow fish, complete with shiny scales!
2. Start with the body. If you're using a paper plate, encourage your child to use the scissors to cut out a mouth! Be sure to save that piece, as we will be using it later on for the tail.
3. If you're using paper instead, have your child search for something circular to trace in the house. Allow them to trace it and cut it out. This will likely be difficult for them (circles can be so hard to cut!) but encourage them to persevere. Tips: encourage them to keep their "thumbs up" (both on the scissor hand and holding hand) and rotate the paper as needed. Of course, ensure they are being safe with scissors.
4. Cut out or draw on the ordinary coloured scales. Have them name the colours they're using.
5. Finally, select a special place for the special scale! Cut a small piece of tinfoil and have them glue it on.

## So ... what are we learning?

**Fine Motor Skills:** the ability to safely use scissors is so important, but most children don't have a lot of exposure to using scissors! Working with your child at home is the best place to strengthen their scissor skills, because you can work closely with them - much more so than educators can in a childcare or school-setting. If your child can successfully use scissors upon entering kindergarten, they will be much more independent throughout their schooling!

**Colours:** naming the colours is important! Try having a dialogue with them as you go through. "Do you see anything in the room that is also this colour?"

**Self-regulation:** discuss the message in the story! When rainbow fish kept all of the beautiful scales to himself and spoke rudely to other fish, they did not want to play with him. However, when he decided to share, his 'heart felt happy'!

