Create Fingerprint stamping

In this activity, we are exploring tracing, stamping and printing whilst discussing what makes us special.

WHAT MAKES YOU UNIQUE? DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR FINGERPRINTS ARE UNIQUE? JUST LIKE YOU!

After sharing a book together, create a list of the character's special qualities. You can then model how you would talk about your own special qualities with sentence starters like, "I am special because I can...."

In this activity, we create art where no two will be the same.

You will need:

- A sheet of paper or cardstock (cereal boxes work perfectly!)
- Markers
- Ink pad*

Optional:

- Hole punch
- Pipe cleaners
- Beads

*You could substitute ink pads for watercolour palettes.

Model how to trace around your non-dominant hand, using a marker onto paper or cardstock.

Children may need assistance with this. Encourage them to stretch their fingers wide.

Once everybody has traced their hands onto paper, you might have a discussion about the different sizes of everybody's hands. How could you measure who has the biggest hand?

Who has the smallest hand?



Show students how you can create a fingerprint by lightly dabbing their finger onto an ink pad and then rolling their fingerprint inside their handprint. Challenge your children to fill as much of the space inside their handprint with fingerprints.



If you don't have ink pads, you could get children to dip their fingers in water and dab their fingers into a watercolour palette.

As children are working, ask them to name qualities in in their friends that makes them special. Once complete, you might like to incorporate scissor practice into this activity and ask children to cut out their hands.

To incorporate further fine motor practice into this activity, you could use a hole punch to punch a hole in the hand artwork. Secure a pipe cleaner through the hole and then children can thread beads onto the pipe cleaner. The artworks can then be hung up to dangle and display.

To conclude, you might ask:

- What do you love most about yourself?
- How did you do that?
 - This asks the child to explain their process to you.