

SNAKES – HISSSSSSS!

MATERIALS:

- 1 Cardboard Tube from a Roll of Paper Towels
(A toilet paper tube or wrapping paper tube will also work.)
- Paint (acrylic works best)
- Paint Brush
- Scissors
- 1 Cotton Swab (optional)
- Craft Glue (optional)
- 2 Googly Eyes (optional)
- Stickers (optional)



Directions:

First, create the body.

1. Starting at the top of the tube cut on a diagonal to create a spiral shape. You can stop cutting or you can start at the top again and cut the curvy tube in half lengthwise to create two narrower snakes.

NOTE: Younger kids often need help with step 1 but can complete the rest.

2. Paint the front and back of each strip using any color that you like. You might need to do a second coat. Don't worry if the paint causes the spiral to straighten out.
3. Allow to dry.

Next, decorate it.

4. Decorate the strip with stripes, dots, or any pattern that you like. Stickers work well here.
- HINT: A cotton swab makes great dots.
5. Glue googly eyes or paint eyes on the tube near one end.

Finally, put it all together!

6. To put the curl back in your snake, wrap it around a paintbrush or pencil. After just a few minutes it should curl.
7. HISSSSSS!
8. Enjoy!

Storyologist Idea: Write a Slithery Story

Lots of people are afraid of snakes. Some snakes are venomous but many are harmless and very shy. Can you write a story about a snake who wants to make friends? How do the people or animals in the story react when they see the friendly snake? Do they scream and run away? How does this make the snake feel?

Science Fun Fact: Why Do Snakes Shed Their Skin?

When you grow bigger your skin grows bigger too! But what if it didn't? You would need to shed your old skin. This is what snakes do. When they get bigger, their skin does not. So, they grow new skin and leave the old skin behind.

