

# Holiday Helps

Ideas for Early Childhood Classrooms

Use this garland to help your children count their blessings and thank God for everything He gives to them.

## Count Your Blessings Garland

### What You'll Need

- card stock, construction paper, or colored paper in fall colors
- pencil
- blunt-tip scissors
- 48" string
- washable markers
- sticker of Jesus
- nature, animals, etc. stickers

### What to Do

1. Trace each child's hand on a sheet of paper, allowing about an inch for the wrist. Cut out, then using this as a template, have the children trace their handprints on various colors of paper. Each child should make a total of 11 hands. Help the children cut out their hands. Fold under the wrist section of the hands. Using this part as a tab, tape the hands onto a length of string.
2. On each hand, print one letter, spelling the words "Give Thanks." Leave one hand blank to separate the words. Add the Jesus sticker to the blank hand.
3. As children add other stickers to their hands, let them say a prayer thanking God for everything He gives them.

### Another Idea!

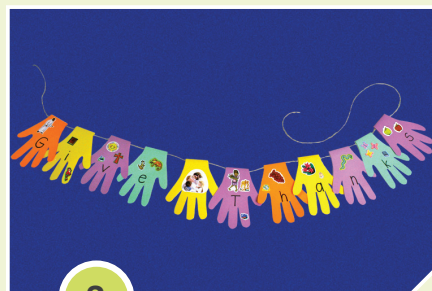
Use the garland to count down the days to Thanksgiving Day. Instead of taping the hands to the string, let the children use the tabs to hook the hands to the string. Secure the hands with paper clips. Children can take a hand down each day and draw on the hand a picture of something or someone they are thankful for.



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