

## Purple Zoo Animals

<b>Introduction</b>	This art project uses prewriting skills and other fine motor skills like tracing, gluing, cutting and coloring. Provides early practice with scissors.
<b>Goals</b>	To develop growing strength, dexterity and control needed to use tools. To encourage the development of fine motor skills needed for prewriting. To foster the creative imagination by visualizing animals formed from basic shapes and by using art materials.
<b>Before You Start</b>	In addition to a Purplinker for each child and teacher, you will need construction paper, scissors, craft glue, yarn. Discuss if animals like to be in a cage or roam free. Explain that some animals are kept in cages, such as at the zoo. These animals may have been rescued from the wild and now the zoo is their home. In order to protect zoo visitors, they must be kept in a cage or behind a barrier.
<b>Let's Begin</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Hold up your Purplinker formed into the animal shape you want to begin with. Ask the children to use their imaginations to think what animal this might be. Help them form their Purplinker into the same shape and trace it on a piece of paper,</li><li>2. Repeat this step with several animal shapes.</li><li>3. Invite the children to illustrate their animal pictures with markers or crayons.</li><li>4. Assist the children in cutting several pieces of yarn and help them glue the yarn pieces across the animals to create bars.</li></ol>
<b>Furthermore</b>	At snack time, serve the children animal crackers and milk.

### The Next Level

Tell the class that they are starting a zoo. You want the students to form shapes of what they would find in a zoo. It could be animals, birds, reptiles and fish. When the students finished forming their shape, have them identify their shape to the class members. Have them trace and color the zoo shapes and give them a name. Have the children put them on the inside of the closet door to keep them safe. This could also be done as a roll paper exercise that can be continued from week to week. Complete the zoo setting with the children adding other components they would see in the zoo