



Handprint Macaws

Blue and gold macaws are colorful, intelligent birds that *pair-bond*. That means macaws choose a mate and usually stay together for most of their lives. That may be a long time since macaws can live for 80 years! They strengthen their bond by *preening*, or straightening and cleaning each other's feathers with their beak, sharing food, and *roosting*, or resting, together. Make your own pair-bonded macaws to share your home!

Materials

Macaw body stencils (next page) 4 pieces of colored paper or old magazines Scissors Crayons, markers, or colored pencils Pencil Glue stick or tape 2 chopsticks or crafting sticks (optional)

Directions

- 1. **Print** the macaw body template on white paper.
- 2. **Color** in your macaws using crayons, markers, or colored pencils. The pair-bonded macaws in Osher Rainforest are blue and gold macaws, but you can use any colors you like!
- 3. Cut out both macaw body templates.
- Choose four pieces of colored paper. You can use any colors you'd like, even old magazines.

If you want to match the blue and gold macaws, use blue and yellow paper.

- 5. **Trace** the outline of your hand with a pencil onto the four pieces of colored paper.
- 6. **Cut** out the four handprints.
- Glue two handprints onto one macaw's body to give it wings and a tail. Glue the other two handprints on the second macaw body.
- 8. *Optional*: **Glue or tape** the craft stick to the back of the macaw.
- 9. Fly your macaws around your home! Choose a good spot for them to roost for the night. Where will your pair-bonded macaws live?



