



# Crafts

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## Seven Dancing Chickens

### Materials:

- Paper
- Glue
- Feathers
- Scissors
- Crayons or markers
- Glitter
- Craft Supplies
- Popsicle sticks

### Talk About It:

#### Count Your Chickens

It's fun to count things in different ways! Help your children make seven dancing chickens by tracing their hands seven times and decorating each one to look like a chicken.

### Make it:

#### Step 1: Things You'll Need

Collect the items on the material list.

**Little Hands Tip:** Stop and count after you finish each one. Ask them, "How many chickens have you made so far? How many more do you need to have seven chickens altogether?"



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## Step 2: A Bird in the Hand

Help your children fold a large piece of paper in half three times (to create a total of eight rectangles). Then, trace their hands in seven of the rectangles. Encourage them to keep their fingers close together to make the chicken's body. The thumb will be the head.

## Step 3: Fancy Feathers

After you and your children have traced seven chickens, carefully cut the rectangles around each one (or cut right around the chickens). Now that you've created the basic shape of your chickens, it's time to bring them to life! Encourage your children to decorate each chicken using crayons and craft supplies.

## Step 4: Cluck, Cluck, Wattle

You might help by making or drawing some of the chicken's body parts, such as the legs, claws, eyes, beak, wattle (the skin that hangs under the chicken's beak), and comb (the crown shaped skin on top of the chicken's head).

**Little Hands Tip:** As you add body parts, talk about each one!

## Step 5: Seven Sticks for Seven Chickens

Count out seven popsicle sticks or straws. These will be used to hold the chicken up.

## Step 6: Birds of a Feather Stick Together

With glue, attach each chicken to one of the Popsicle sticks or straws.

## Step 7: Here a Chick, There a Chick

Invite your children to count all of the chickens and ask, "How many chickens are there altogether?" Now move the chickens into different groupings. Point out that no matter how you rearrange the chickens—five over here and two over there, or three over here and four over there—there are always seven chickens altogether!

## Step 8: Time to do the Chicken Dance

You can use your chicken puppets to make up and act out a seven-chicken story together—or put on a seven-chicken dance!

**Little Hands Tip:** Now that you've practiced counting to seven, look around for the number seven around the house, in magazines, and even in your neighborhood. See how many times you can find it!