

Paper Plate Snake Craft



Snakes are an important part of our ecosystems here on the eastern shore. An Eastern black rat snake can eat up to 9 pounds of rodents in a year, according to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. That's about 192 mice! Create your own slithery snake by cutting a paper plate into a spiral, widening from the edge of the plate (the tail) to the middle of the plate (the head), then decorate your snake however you like! When you're finished decorating them, attach a loop of string to make a pretty window decoration. We would love to see your creations! Give your new friend a name and post a picture in the comments.



1. Gather Your Materials

- Paper plate
- Markers, crayons, paint, etc
- Pin or hole punchers
- String
- Glue Stick

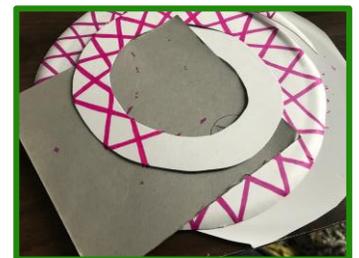
2. Make the snake's body

- Cut off the raised edge if your plate has one
- Draw a spiral on the back of the plate, starting at the edge and ending in the middle.
- Cut along the spiral.
- Optional: cut a small teardrop shape next to the head to give it a better shape



3. Use markers, crayons, paint, or whatever you'd like to color your snake's body.

- Fun Fact: All reptiles have scales to protect them, so draw some scales for a realistic touch.
- Fun Fact: Don't forget to give your snake eyes! Did you know that snakes don't have eyelids?



4. Make the tongue and hang your snake

- Use scraps, construction paper, or pipe cleaners to make a forked tongue. Glue to the back of the head.
- Poke a small hole behind the eyes and thread some string through it so you can hang your snake.
- Fun Fact: snakes use their tongues to smell!