



The project on the next page goes along with the book *Crunch The Shy Dinosaur* written by Greg Pizzoli.

If you don't have this book, click [here](#) to listen to the book read aloud by a member of The Ringling's Education Staff!

In this story, we meet a shy dinosaur named Crunch! He wants to be our friend, but he's a little shy. We have to give him a little time to warm up to us! Together we do all kinds of silly things to help Crunch feel a little more comfortable being our friend. We love this book for its interactive elements. The story helps our little ones learn about boundaries and how to be considerate of others.

For the art activity on the next page, we are creating our own painted rocks with our names, just as Crunch did in the story, using rocks and paint!



MUSEUM CONNECTION

This art project was inspired by the Japanese-inspired rock garden beneath the Center for Asian Art. In Japan, gardening is seen as an art form used to balance and highlight the natural landscape.

Rock gardens provide a calming space often used to practice meditation. One of the most impressive

features of rock gardens is their carefully raked and arranged patterns of sand or gravel. These wavy patterns mimic how water moves. Surrounding, and sometimes inside, these raked patterns are larger rocks arranged in odd-number groupings. All these larger rocks also represent natural forms like islands, mountains, waterfalls, or trees.

EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS:

I.C.1

I.C.2

IV.A.1

IV.A.2

IV.A.3

IV.F.1

IV.F.2

IV.F.3

IV.F.4

VIII.A.1

VIII.E.1

VIII.E.2

ACTIVITY

CRUNCH THE SHY DINOSAUR

MATERIALS:
ROCKS, PAINT, PAINT BRUSH,
STICKER LETTERS

DIFFICULTY LEVEL:
SIMPLE



DIRECTIONS:

1. Find the stickers of the letters in your name and place them on the rock to spell your name across it, just like Crunch!
2. Using the paint brush, paint your rock any colors you choose—paint over the stickers, too!
3. When the paint is dry, peel off the stickers to reveal your name written on the rock!

If you don't have letter stickers, use the paint to practice writing your name across the rock. It will be just like the one Crunch made for us in the book!

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE WHAT YOU CREATE!

Click [here](#) to share your masterpiece on our Family Programs Facebook Group!

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