



Advocacy Craft: Big-Eye Headbands

How-to's

1. Print the pdf with eyes onto 8½ x 11" white cover-stock paper — one per child.
2. Cut 24"-long posterboard into 3"-wide bands to fit around heads.
3. Put out crayons and/or washable markers and let each kid color their eyes and their band. Consider offering them stickers, adhesive-backed spangles, etc. to decorate their band.
4. Mark each kid's name on band and sheet with eyes. Use tape to fit band around each kid's head, and set aside with the eyes. While kids are eating or napping, cut out eyes and tape to headband from the inside, so eyes partly overlap headband and inside corners of eyes touch.

Lesson for kids and families:

- ◆ A diversity moment: Talk about their own eye colors, how different people have different-colored eyes, how some kids used different colors for their big-eye headbands. But everyone uses their eyes for the same thing, right? What are eyes for?
- ◆ The Eyes Have It! Look around you! Play I-Spy games, such as: I see a red circle somewhere in the room. Who can see it and point to it/run to it?

Lessons for legislators: Take pictures of kids wearing Big-Eye Headbands and send them to your state office-holders with a message, such as:

- ◆ Open your eyes. Come visit and see our children learning. Notice how quality child care providers nurture and stimulate a wide diversity of kids 0-5. See to it that we get the fair salaries and living wages we deserve.
- ◆ We are watching to see that you value us, our kids' earliest educators, doing the jobs that support families, communities, and the economy. We in the early childhood community are going to stay vigilant, watching to see that you will do what is right!