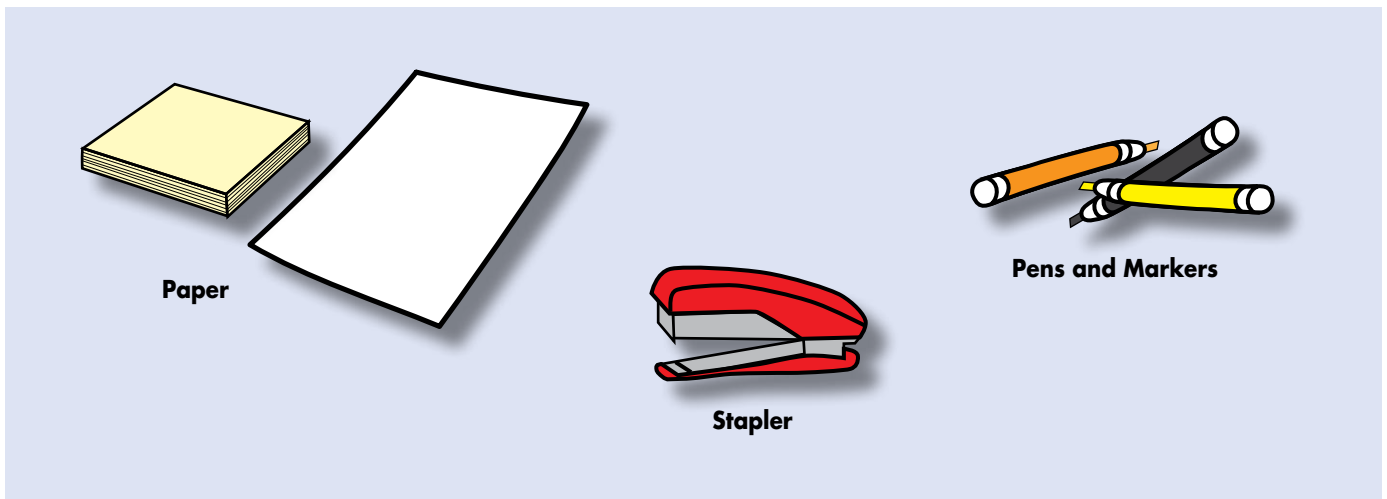


## Animal Flip Book

### Find What You Need...

- Sticky note pad or blank paper
- Stapler
- Pens and markers



### What kinds of tools do animals use to solve problems?

For a long time, humans thought that they were the only animals to use tools. In fact, humans thought that using tools set them apart from other animals. Then, in the 1960s, animal researcher Jane Goodall made a discovery. She observed chimpanzees using tools in the wild! These chimps used sticks to get into hard-to-reach spots and pull out the termites that were hidden there. Since that time, many other animals have been observed using tools to help them survive and live better too. Using tools shows an animal's problem-solving abilities.



Photo: @kafphotography

### Animal Fact:

Apes fold up leaves  
and use them as cups  
to hold water.

## Activity Instructions

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1. Look at the picture of the octopus. Think about how an octopus will carry around a coconut shell to hide in.
2. Watch this tool-using crow on Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwVhrrDvwPM>. Make sure you check with your parents before going online.
3. Now think of an animal that you know something about or you want to learn more about. What challenges does your animal face? Make a list.
4. Choose one problem that you'd like to help your animal solve. For example, chimps use sharp sticks as spears for hunting. Orangutans use sticks to open fruit that's covered in sharp needles.
5. Think of a new tool for the animal you're investigating.
6. Now create an Animal Tool Flip Book. Use sticky notes or paper stapled together. Draw at least 20 pictures of the animal using the tool.
7. In order to make the animal look like it's moving, you'll need to draw each picture to look exactly like the one before it except for one change.
8. Start with your animal and its tool. Draw a series of pictures that shows your animal starting out one way and ending up another.
9. When you are finished drawing the pictures, staple them or stick them together in your sticky note pad.
10. Now quickly flip through the book with your thumb. Have you made your animal move? Share it with others and show how it uses its tool.



Photo: CA Academy of Sciences

## Conclusion

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Many different animals use tools to help them in their everyday lives. Elephants use big leaves as fly swatters to swat annoying flies. They even climb on boxes to reach food that's high up. Using tools is just one way that we can be sure that animals are thinking and trying to solve problems.

### Brain Buster:

**A raven places hard-to-open nuts with tough shells on busy roads. It waits for a car to come by and run over the nut. After the car is safely gone, the raven swoops down and picks up the nut, which is now cracked open and ready to eat.**

Adapted from Nova teacher resources. Tool-Using Animals by Rachel VanCott