



# Brevard County Libraries

We are shaking things up a bit with our  
Summer Reading Program 2021!

In this week's **Teen/Preteen Activity Packet**, we will make our very own **Plush Sloth!** Using felt and sewing skills, you can make this fun and easy project! Add catnip and you can make it a cat toy.

Activity Packets can be picked-up at any branch within Brevard County and are available for curbside service.

All Activity Packets are developed to be take-home based projects. Most supplies will not be provided by the library and will be listed only as 'Supplies Needed.'



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[Brevard County Libraries](https://www.brevardcountylibraries.org)  
brev.org

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Storytime, STEAM, Craft, and Teen Packets developed by the Youth Services Department

# Plush Sloth



## Supplies Needed:

- Sloth Template (image at the end of document)
- 3 Different Colors of Felt (we used brown as well as a dark and light shade of tan)
- Scissors
- Sewing Needle and Thread
- Straight Pins
- Fiberfill Stuffing
- Optional: Black Fabric Paint or Marker
- Optional: Catnip

## Notes:

- This project is a great opportunity to learn simple sewing techniques including threading a needle, tying a simple knot, tying a French knot, and using a simple whip stitch. The library has many books that can teach you how to sew and YouTube is also a great resource for instructions.

## Directions:

This activity is intended for you to do at home with your family. Ask an adult for help with this project if necessary.

1. Cut out your sloth pattern. Pieces include the body, the face, face details, and claws.
2. Select which colors you will use. In our piece we used dark tan for the body, light tan for the face, and brown for the face details. We also used black thread to give details to the face.
3. Pin your pattern to the felt using the straight pins. For the body you will need to cut 2 pieces.
4. Cut out all pieces. Note: do not cut out the individual claws yet. Just cut 2 small rectangles.
5. Using a simple whip stitch, you will sew the face details to the face piece. For the eyes you can use fabric paint or a marker. We used a simple French knot with black thread for the eyes and black thread for the mouth.
6. Next you will sew the face to 1 piece of the body (as pictured).
7. After your face is sewn on you will now sew the body pieces together. Straight pins can help keep them lined up. We recommend started around the head area for this step. Use a whip stitch to sew the edges of the body pieces together.

8. This part is kind of tricky! When you get to the legs you will attach your 2 small rectangles (the claws). Prior to sewing the first foot together you will insert a felt rectangle. Hold that in place and then sew across the opening. Sew down the rest of the leg and then repeat the process for the other leg.
9. Don't sew the sloth all the way closed! Leave a small gap and insert your stuffing. You can use fiberfill stuffing or scrap felt. If you're making this into a cat toy you will also insert catnip at this point. Then sew the gap closed.



### Read More:

We recommend the *Complete Photo Guide to Sewing* by Janith Bergeron. It is an excellent step-by-step, full color guide to beginning sewing techniques. And if you need to see cute pictures of sloths try *A Little Book of Sloth* by Lucy Cooke.

### Template:

The next page contains the printable pattern for your plush sloth. This pattern is from the 2021 Teen Summer Reading Program from the Collaborative Summer Library Program.

# PRINTABLES

## Pocket Sloth Template

