

Termite Fishing with Grass Tool

It had been thought that only human beings could use and make tools. Surprisingly chimpanzees not only make and use grass stems as tools but they actually make tools for the purpose of gathering tasty termites for food.

Material needed:

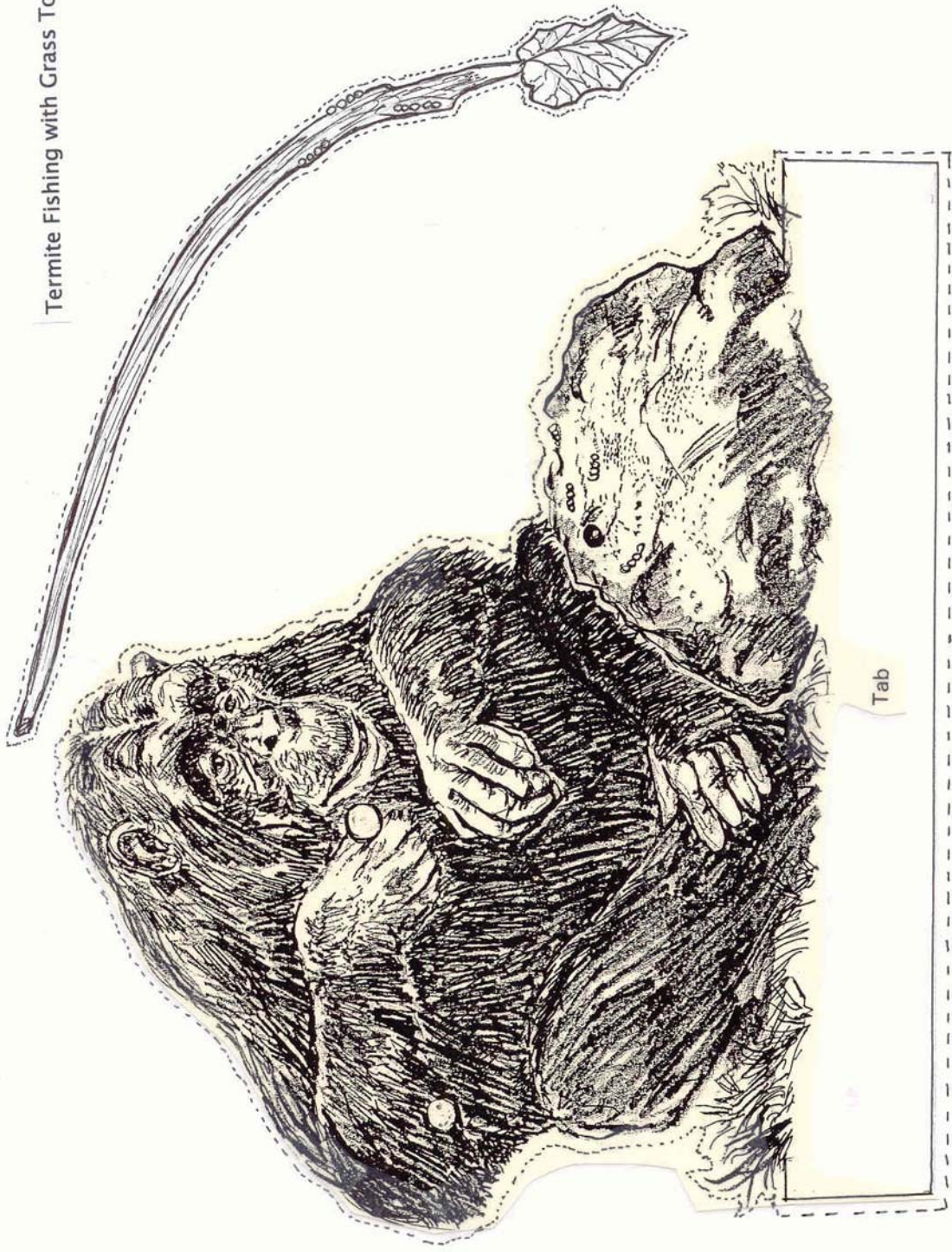
1. Drawing of a chimpanzee with termite mound and grass tool with termites on the stem. Both drawings will appear on one sheet.
2. 1 sheet of 8 ½ x 11 cardstock of your choice of color that should depict the grass or dirt surface that the chimpanzee and the termite mound will be placed upon.
3. Child-Safe Scissors
4. Clear tape (either double or single sided)
5. Crayons or color pencils
6. A pencil or pen
7. Elmers school glue or non-toxic glue
8. Decoration supplies in order to create the chimpanzee's natural environment such as pom poms or foam pieces or a natural environment made up of twigs, shrubbery, leaves and bushes.



Steps to create activity:

1. Photocopy drawing of chimpanzee on the termite mound and grass tool onto card stock for support and sturdiness.
2. Color and decorate the chimpanzee with the termite mound and the grass tool using crayons or color pencils.
3. Cut out both drawings along the dotted line. Pay close attention to the tab on the bottom of the figure with the chimpanzee and termite mound. This tab will be used to secure the figure in place.
4. You will notice a small dark circle on the chimpanzee's right hand and another small dark circle along the bottom of the chimpanzee's right forearm. Use a pen or pencil to cut two small openings through the paper where the circles indicate.
5. Take the grass tool and place the end without the leaf through the hole on the chimpanzee's hand. It will go through the back of the chimpanzee figure, and then place the same end (without the leaf) through the hole on the chimpanzee's right forearm. The end should now be showing on the front of the chimpanzee figure. It should give the illusion that the chimpanzee is holding the grass tool.
6. Bend back the tab on the bottom of the figure of the chimpanzee with the termite mound. Then place the figure on card stock you selected as the surface for your activity. You can use tape to make sure it stays completely in place.
7. Create a natural environment for the chimpanzee with twigs, grass, and natural objects or use pom poms, foam pieces, etc. Use your imagination to design an environment.
8. Move the grass tool back and forth to see how they use the tool to dig into the termite opening and aggravate termites to climb on the grass tool. The chimpanzees then extract and cautiously (termites bite!) eat them. Now your chimpanzee can enjoy its meal.

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Tab

cut out along dotted line