

# Ollie's Super-Snip Hair Adventure!

## Materials Needed:

- 1 paper plate
- Yarn (can be one color or multiple fun colors)
- Child-safe scissors
- Glue stick or tape
- Markers or crayons
- Googly eyes (optional, but fun!)
- A storybook about haircuts (optional, e.g., "This is a Job for Mommy!" or "Wally's Big Haircut")

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## 1. Learning Objectives (Our Goals for Today)

- Ollie will be able to explain at least two simple reasons why haircuts are important (e.g., to see better, to keep hair clean and neat).
- Ollie will practice fine motor skills by safely using scissors to "cut" yarn hair.
- Ollie will connect the positive experience of the activity with the real-life event of getting a haircut.

## 2. The Hook: A Silly Hair Story! (5 minutes)

Start by getting comfy and saying, "Ollie, I have a story for you about a fluffy, friendly monster named Gus. Gus had wild, colorful hair that he loved. But his hair grew, and grew, and GREW! It grew so long that it covered his eyes. When he tried to play tag, he tripped over a rock he couldn't see! When he tried to eat his favorite spaghetti, his hair kept falling into the sauce! Poor Gus!"

Ask Ollie:

- "What do you think is happening to Gus?"
- "What is a good idea that could help Gus see and eat his spaghetti without getting messy?"

Guide the conversation toward the idea of a haircut being a helpful solution.

## 3. Let's Talk Hair! (5 minutes)

Let's brainstorm why haircuts are so helpful. We can call them our "Haircut Superpowers!"

- **Superpower #1: Super Sight!** Gently brush Ollie's hair over his eyes. "Can you see well? Nope! A haircut keeps hair out of our eyes so we can see the world, play safely, and read our favorite books."
- **Superpower #2: Tangle-Free Power!** "When hair gets really long, it can get full of knots and tangles. Ouch! A haircut helps keep it easy to brush and comfortable."
- **Superpower #3: The Power of Neatness!** "Haircuts help us look tidy and feel fresh. It also helps keep our hair clean and out of our food."

## 4. Creative Application: Be a Barber! (15-20 minutes)

This is the most exciting part! We are going to make a friend who needs a haircut, and YOU get to be the barber.

1. **Create Your Client:** Give Ollie the paper plate. This is the head. Let him use markers to draw a mouth and a nose. Then, stick on the googly eyes.
2. **Give Them Hair:** Cut long strands of yarn. Help Ollie glue or tape them all over the top half of the plate. Make the hair extra long and wild, covering the eyes just like the story monster! Say something like, "Oh no! Look at your friend. He can't see anything!"
3. **Time for a Haircut:** Hand Ollie the child-safe scissors. Explain, "You are the barber! It's your job to give your friend a super-snip haircut so he can see again. You can make it short, give him bangs, or any style you want."
4. **The Big Reveal:** Let Ollie snip away at the yarn. Cheer him on as he works. There is no right or wrong way to do it—the goal is creativity and fun!

## 5. Wrap-Up and Discussion (5 minutes)

Hold up the finished paper plate person. Admire Ollie's work!

Ask questions to connect the activity to the lesson:

- "Wow! Look at the great job you did! Why did your paper plate friend need a haircut?"
- "Can he see much better now?"
- "Was it fun to give a haircut?"
- "So, are haircuts a scary thing or a helpful thing?" (Guide toward "helpful").

Display Ollie's creation somewhere proud, like on the fridge.

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## Differentiation and Inclusivity (Ways to Adapt)

- **For Extra Support:** If cutting is tricky, you can hold the plate steady while Ollie cuts. You can also use thicker yarn which is easier for little hands to grasp and snip.
- **For an Extra Challenge:** Encourage Ollie to try and create a specific hairstyle (like "spiky hair" by cutting small, pointy snips, or "bangs" by cutting a straight line across the forehead). He could also make a whole family of paper plate people and give them all unique haircuts.

## Assessment (How We Know We Learned)

- **Observation:** I will watch to see if Ollie is engaged and enjoying the craft, and if he is using the scissors safely.
- **Conversation:** I will listen to Ollie's answers during the wrap-up. If he can name one or two reasons why his paper plate friend needed a haircut (e.g., "to see," "it was messy"), then he has met the learning objective!