



CHILDREN'S  
**WEEK**  
FLORIDA  
*Because Every Child Matters*

# 2026 Celebration of the Hands Tips & Instructions



*Because Every Child Matters*



Please contact the Children's Week Florida Planning Team at [info@childrensweek.org](mailto:info@childrensweek.org) or 850-487-6300 if you have questions or need additional information.

Hablamos español, llámanos si necesitas ayuda.

# Children's Week Florida 2026

## Celebration of the Hands Display

Featuring artwork submitted by children, teens, teachers, families, and legislators from across Florida, our annual **Celebration of the Hands** display brings the Capitol Rotunda to life. This vibrant installation serves as a daily reminder that the future of our children truly rests in our hands.



Our Children's Week Florida Planning Team would be honored to include your creative hand artwork in this inspiring display at the Florida Capitol. The following pages provide tips and instructions on how you can participate in this annual tradition.

We encourage you to share snapshots of your original masterpieces on social media and use the hashtags **#InOurHands** and **#BuildTheFuture**

**This event is brought to you with generous support from  
our 2026 Celebration of the Hands Featured Partner**

**Humana**  
Healthy Horizons®  
in Florida



# Children's Week Florida 2026 Celebration of the Hands Display

To help ensure your hand artwork is display-ready,  
please follow these important guidelines:

## Connect Your Hand Artwork

- Attach your hand art or prints to twine, string, yarn, or wide ribbon—materials that will easily adhere to the large display ropes.
- **Do not send individual hands.** All hands must be attached vertically to a string or ribbon to create the “hanging” effect.
- Staple, tape, or securely fasten each hand to the string or ribbon.
- Each string or ribbon should be no longer than 8 feet in length.
  - If you have a large number of hands, feel free to submit multiple 8-foot strings.

## Label Your Artwork

- Please include a header at the top of your string or ribbon.
  - Your header may include: County, Name of your program or school, Classroom or student age group (e.g., Infant/Toddlers, VPK, 2nd Grade)

## Count and Package Carefully

- Include a count of the total number of hands in your package.
- If using glue, glitter, or embellishments, allow 2–3 days of drying time before packaging to ensure the artwork stays intact.

## Optional Poster Submissions

- You may also create small posters (using hand artwork or hand themes) to be displayed on pillars inside the Capitol Rotunda.
  - Posters must be no larger than 11” x 17” (portrait or landscape).

## Deadline

- All artwork must be postmarked by **Friday, February 6, 2026** to be included in the **2026 Celebration of the Hands** display at the Florida Capitol.



Please mail hand artwork  
to the address below:

Children's Forum  
Attn: Children's Week Florida  
1650 Summit Lake Drive, Suite 210  
Tallahassee, FL 32317



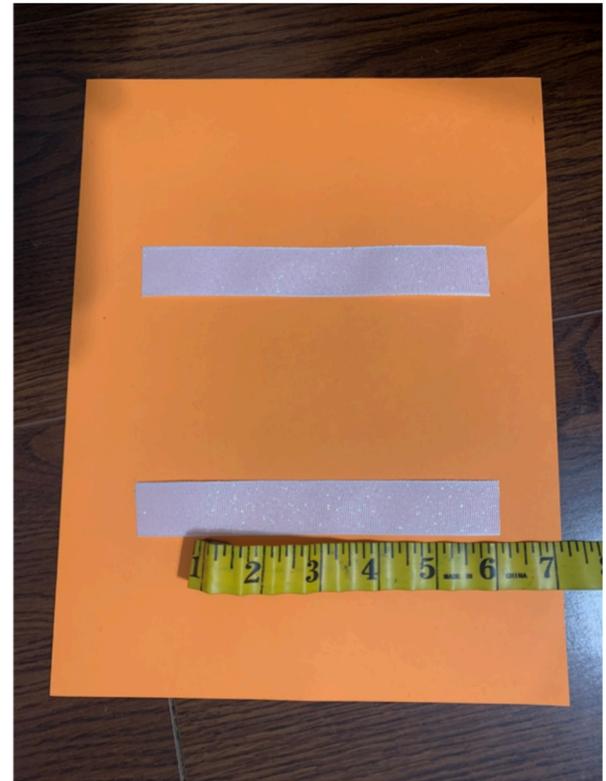
## How to create the “hanging” effect with your incredible hand artwork:

step  
1



**It's time to create your magnificent hand artwork.** You can draw and decorate hands on construction or printing paper, using finger paints, crayons, or colored markers. You can also trace and cut out your own hand designs to make fun shapes or animals. Hand templates are provided on the following pages.

step  
2



**Next, add string or ribbon.** Once your artwork is complete, measure and cut two 6-inch pieces of string or ribbon.

step  
3



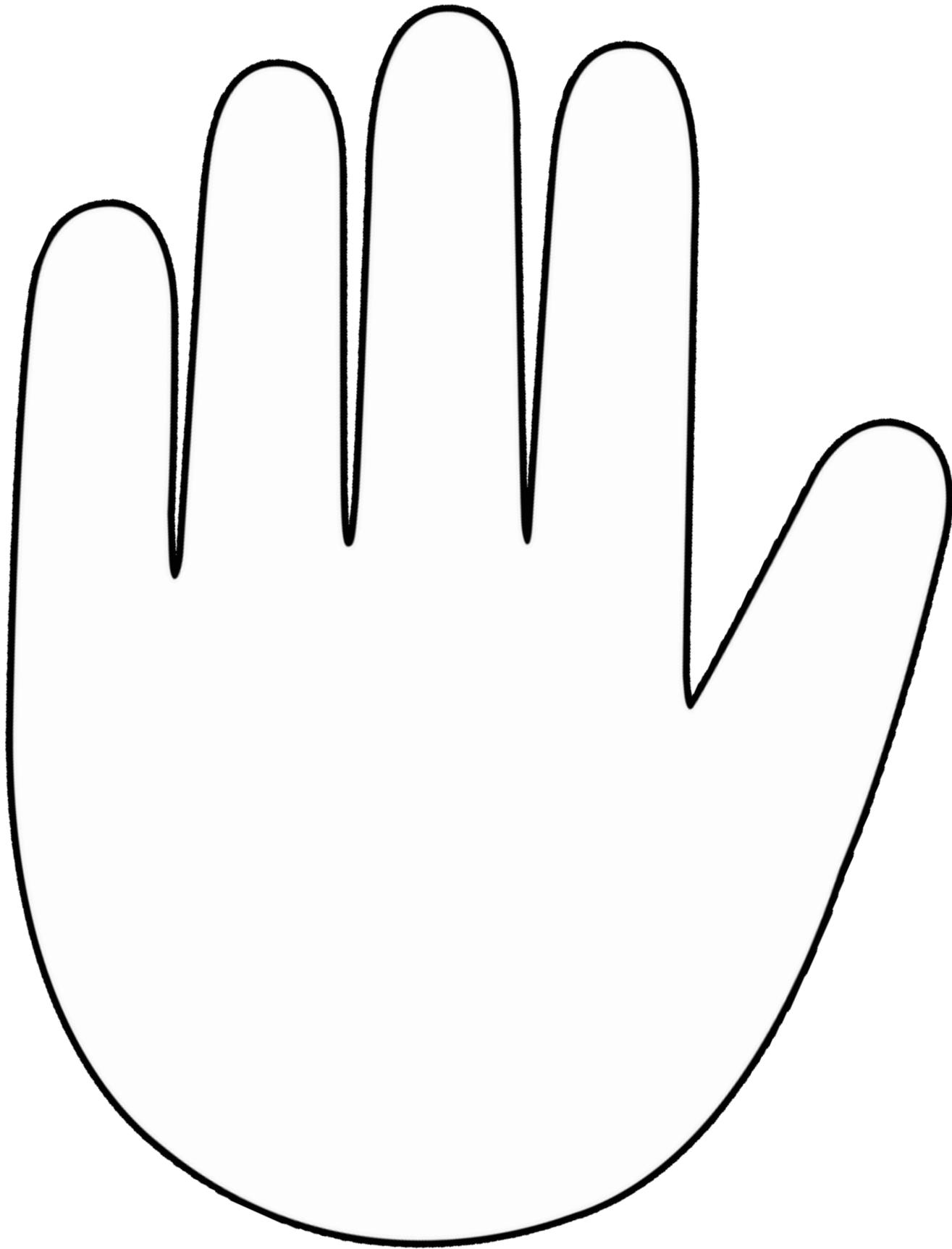
**Hooray, it's time to assemble.** Secure the string or ribbon to your paper using staples or tape. The example above is approximately 2.5 inches from the side.

step  
4

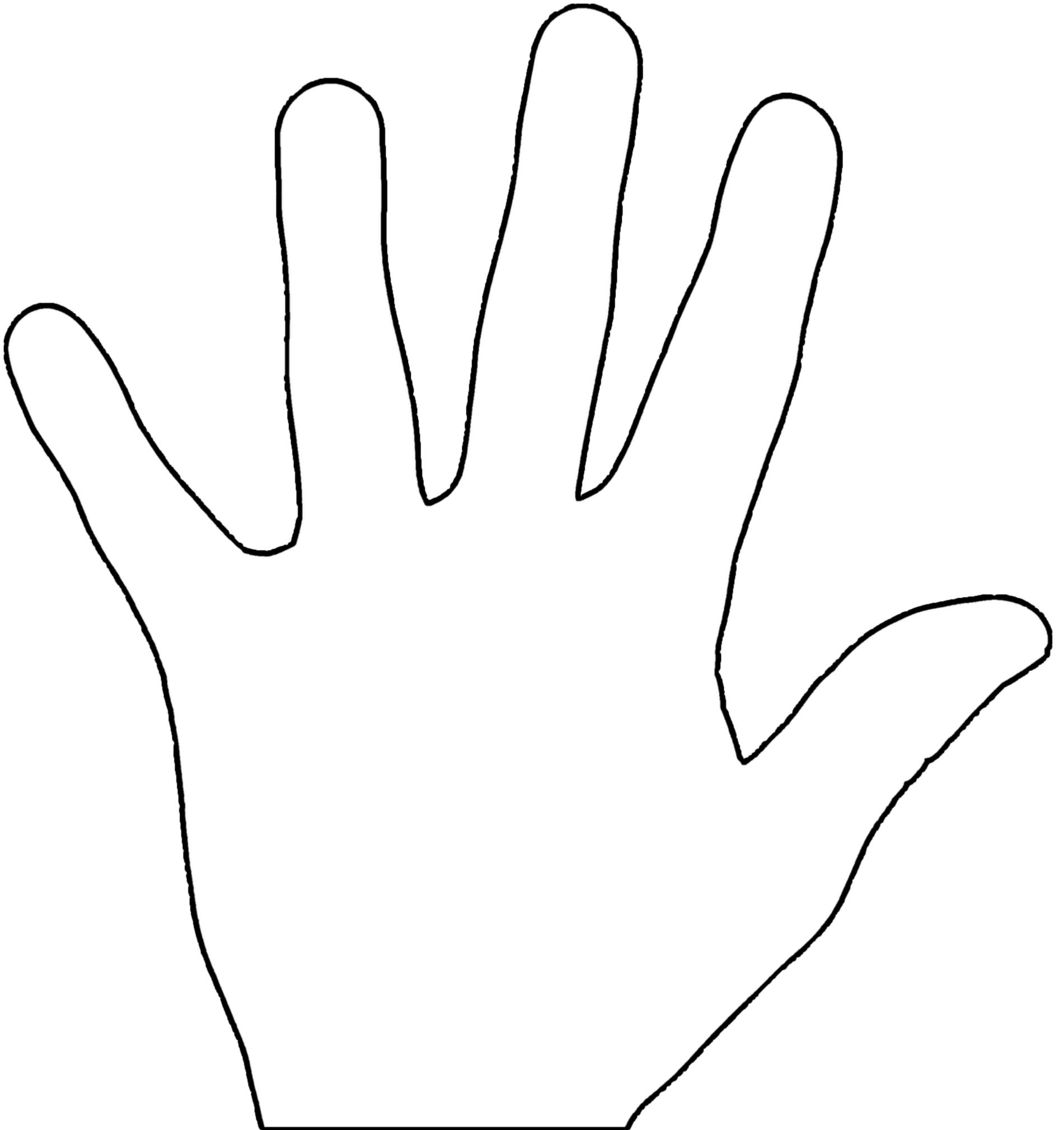


**You did it - Check out your work of beauty!** Connect the artwork to create the “hanging” effect for display. Each strand of hands should be no longer than 8 feet in length.

# Hand Template: Child/Youth



# Hand Template: Teen/Adult



# Thank You for Your Contribution!

Your unique artwork and handprints stand as a powerful symbol of your lasting commitment to the growth, well-being, and future of Florida's children and teens.



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