Title: Woolly Worms  
Recommended for: 2-5 Year Olds

**Objectives:**

**Children**
- Fine motor
- Follows direction
- Cooperation
- Attention to detail

**Adults**
- Fine motor
- Teamwork
- Positive mood
- Recognition

**Materials Needed:**

- Woolly worm and container with air holes
- Gloves if desired
- Colored yarn (thick)
- Cardboard toilet paper rolls
- Magnifying glass
- Googly eyes
- Pipe cleaners
- Scissors

**Methods:**

**Facilitator Preparation**
1. Purchase or collect all supplies.
2. Set up craft stations. Give each IG pair a cardboard toilet paper roll or paper towel roll. Place the additional decorating supplies on a table next to the facilitator. Elders or children can select for their pair which decorations they would like.
3. Find a woolly worm outside and put it in the container with air holes.
   a. Option: Find another insect, such as, butterflies, grasshoppers, or lightning bugs.

**Intergenerational Participants**
1. Introduction -- pair each adult up with a child and sing the hello song.
2. Begin by showing the group the woolly worm.
3. Have a group discussion about the woolly worm.
   a. Fun fact: Woolly worms are predictors of the weather.
   b. Link to weather information: [http://www.almanac.com/content/predicting-winter-weather-woolly-bear-caterpillars](http://www.almanac.com/content/predicting-winter-weather-woolly-bear-caterpillars)
4. Allow the group to touch the worm, look at the worm through the magnifying glass, and then place the worm back outside.
5. Have the IG pairs begin to wrap the cardboard in the yarn. Partners can take turns holding the tube and wrapping the yarn. Tie the yarn off in the middle.
6. Next, have IG pairs decorate the woolly worm, working together to select and apply eyes, stripes, antennae, etc.
7. Connect the IG pairs’ woolly worm piece – creating one large woolly worm.
8. Display the craft for others to see.
9. Clean up and sing the goodbye song.

**Helpful Websites**
Special Considerations
• Be sure to find an insect that is not dangerous or poisonous.
• Show the group how to take care of the insect and then return it to its natural environment.
• Use gloves if children or elders would prefer not to touch the insect with their bare hands.
• The activity can be done outside to facilitate conversation about the natural environment of insects.

Getting To Know You
• “Talk about other insects that can be found outside.”
• “Can you ask ______ if they have ever held an insect before?”
• Have IG pair discuss nature – what do they like about being outdoors?

Encouraging Interaction
• “Can you ask ______ to help you wrap the yarn around the cardboard?”
• “Can you ask ______ to help you cut and tie the end of the yarn?”
• “Talk with your neighbor about why we need insects.”
• After the activity ends, ask participants to mimic how the bug moves (children may hop or lie down and squirm, adults may inch their hand along the table or flap their arms).

Extension Opportunities
• Looking for other bugs outside as a group.
• Nature walks.
• Field trip to an insectarium.
• Keep an ant farm.
• Nature crafts to bring outside nature inside.