

# Storytelling puppets

Children love puppets (and, if we're really honest, grown-ups do too!) You can have lots of fun making your own puppets together, from old socks, gloves, paper bags and buttons. Anything you can get your hands on! Then use them to act out the story from a book or retell a familiar tale. How do you start? It's easy. "Once upon a time..."

## What's happening during puppet play?

Children are learning about characteristics, empathy and sequencing. Puppetry also encourages interaction with others. Shy, quiet children often come alive when they have a character to hide behind, or a puppet who can be a special friend. It can give them the confidence to try other things.

## Some techniques to try

Try giving the puppet you're using the role of a teacher, showing the child what to do. Or it could play the role of pupil, getting things muddled up as it learns alongside your child. Can your child correct the puppet each time it gets confused? Don't forget to give your puppet a name!

### KEY SKILLS

Confidence  
Speaking and listening  
Using story language



Parent activity sheet