IN THE AIR

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Pre-Activity #2

"Making Puppets"

K-3 EDUCATION MODULE

EPA
Missouri Botanical Garden
Correlation with Education Standards Summary

**Pre-Activity #2 “Making Puppets”**

For a narrative description of these standards and how they relate to the connecting activities please refer to the Teacher’s Guide.

**National Standards**

SOURCE: www.education-world.com/standards

- NA-T.K-4.2
- NA-VA.K-4.1
- NA-VA.K-4.2

**Missouri Show-Me Standards**

SOURCE: www.dese.mo.gov/standards

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OVERVIEW

During the puppet show, students in the audience have opportunities to interact with the story by using their own handmade puppets.

GOALS

- To provide a means whereby children may participate in the puppet show they are watching
- To foster creativity by allowing students to decorate puppets in their own styles
- To recognize human diversity by having children make the puppets like themselves or their friends
- To reinforce skills for listening and following instructions

OBJECTIVES

When the project is completed, students will be able to do the following:

- Tell something about the puppets they made—why they chose that form, color, decoration, etc.
- Operate their puppets.
- Show someone else how to make a puppet like his or her own.

“MAKING PUPPETS”

Recommended Grade Level:
K-3

Preparation Time:
Time is needed to assemble materials and tools listed below and to precut puppet pieces as necessary for your grade level.

Presentation Time:
Assembling puppets with precut parts and displaying them.
Time: 45 minutes
Cutting out parts, assembling, and displaying puppets.
Time: 90 minutes

MATERIALS

- Small brown or white paper bags (lunch bag type, size 4), one per student
- Construction paper in different skin colors
- Scraps of colored paper
- Scissors, paste, or glue
- Felt markers and crayons
- Bits of crinkle ribbon, yarn, feathers, felt, or other fabric scraps
- Pattern for paper bag people puppets
PROCEDURES

1. Explain to students that they will be making a paper bag puppet to use while they watch the puppet show. The puppets will be “people puppets” made to look like themselves or a friend.
2. Students make people puppets, sample directions follow. This basic pattern may be modified for different age levels.

CONCLUSION

Drawing on their knowledge from pre-activity one, ask each student to have his or her puppet take on a different personality: helpful, grumpy, sad, hopeful, happy, etc., and say one thing about clean or dirty air. Collect or display puppets until it is time for students to use them at the puppet show.

“Let’s make our puppets!”

USE YOUR OWN IMAGINATION TO COLOR AND DECORATE YOUR PUPPET!

General directions below- see next pages for details and patterns.

1. Face: Use crayons to draw face or cut out and glue bits of paper. Make half of the mouth on the top face piece and the other half on the bottom face piece so it will look as if the puppet is talking.

   Hair: Color the hair on the head, cut it from paper, glue on yarn or curls made from crinkle ribbon.

2a. Arms and Legs: Cut strips of construction paper and fold them back and forth in small squares.
   b. Cut out shoe and hand patterns and glue to ends of arm and leg strips.
   c. Glue arm and leg strips to paper bag.

3. Body and Clothes: Draw with crayons or cut from construction paper. Decorate with fabric or paper scraps, feathers, or whatever is handy.

Check out these fun and creative characters!
**Pre-Activity #2**

**Making Puppets**

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**Step 1a**

Lay #4 paper bag flat on table with bottom flap on top.

**Step 1b**

1. Cut out circle pattern below.
2. On a piece of construction paper trace around the puppet’s face.
3. Fold pattern on dotted line; lay on the construction paper circle and draw a line across the circle at the dotted line.
4. Cut your circle apart on the line to make the top and bottom of the face.

**Step 1c**

1. Glue face bottom just below the paper bag flap.
2. Glue face top on paper bag flap so that it is even with face bottom.
CREATING PUPPET ARMS

Using pattern, cut out two strips of construction paper. Lay triangle cut edge on the side of the paper bag 1/2 inch from the front about where the arms would be and glue. Begin folding strip back and forth until you reach the stop folding line. Using pattern, cut out and glue on hands.

CREATING PUPPET LEGS

Using pattern, cut out two strips of construction paper. Glue top of strips under the front edge of the paper bag. Fold strips back and forth until you reach the stop folding line. Using pattern, cut out and glue on feet.
Sample Feet