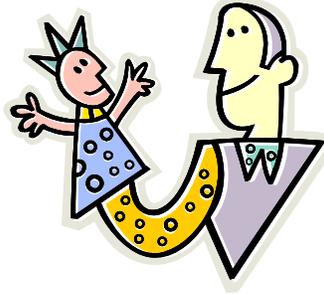


Storytelling with Puppets



Using a puppet to tell a story is a wonderful technique that can lead children to discover the joy of literature and learning. Puppets can be used “anyway, anywhere, and anytime” to bring stories to life and to spark young imaginations.

It doesn't take a professional puppeteer or an expensive puppet to make storytelling with puppets “work.” Puppets can be made out of anything from catalogs to paper cups, and from envelopes to plastic straws. If you use your imagination, the possibilities are almost endless. Even the simplest, hand-made puppet can be thrilling for a young child.

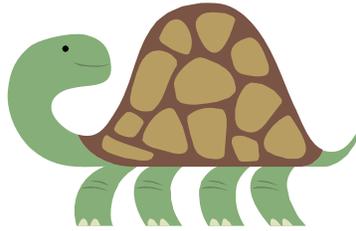
Telling stories with puppets can also be a terrific technique for new storytellers. Knowing that the audience is focusing on the puppet can help a beginning storyteller to relax and have more fun with their stories. The art of storytelling is about bringing stories to life, and puppets provide us with a great way to do just that.

Resources:

- *Leading Kids to Books Through Puppets* by Caroline Feller Bauer
- *Storytelling With Puppets* by Connie Champlin & Nancy Renfro
- *Storytelling Made Easy with Puppets* by Jan VanSchuyver
- *Story Hours with Puppets and Other Props* by William Painter

As Caroline Feller Bauer writes in *Leading Kids to Books Through Puppets*, just remember to “Think Simple. Think Lively. Think Fun. And always...Think Books!”

Make Your Own Turtle Puppet



Materials:

1 pair of green socks
2 paper plates
Several green and brown pipe-cleaners
Black marker
Staples
Glue

Instructions:

- Roll the pipe-cleaners into tight, flat spirals so that they look like circles. These will decorate the top of the turtle shell.
- Glue them onto the bottom of one of the paper plates.
- Place the paper plates together so that the bottom of each plate faces out.
- Staple the paper plates together using only two staples that are directly across from each other. This is now the turtle shell.
- From one sock, cut out four small circles. These will be the turtle's feet.
- Staple them around the outside of the shell, and set it aside.
- Take the other sock and put it over your hand.
- Position it the way you like it, and draw on two eyes using a black marker.
- Put your hand through the shell, and now you have a turtle puppet!

There are tons of stories that can be told with your new puppet, but if you especially like "Turtle of Koka," you can find it and eleven other tell-able tales in *The Storyteller's Start-Up Book* by Margaret Read MacDonald.