

# Art and Craft

## How to make a Cuppet puppet!



### Table Top 'Cuppet' Puppets

#### \*Per puppet – Materials

1. 1 chopstick (wood or plastic)
2. 1 ball (polystyrene or paper 50mm or 70mm)
3. 1 paper cup (not plastic, size depends on size of ball used)
4. 1 sheet of skin tissue
5. 1 x sheet of main body colour
6. Small pieces of tissue/crepe paper for hair/beards, lips, accessories etc.
7. White paper for eyes
8. Small pieces of card/paper for accessories/shoes/feet
9. 1 Skewer (with point)
10. Small piece of skin coloured card for hands
11. 1 x (10cm x 15cm) piece of felt for legs
12. 1 x (10cm x 15cm) piece of felt for arms
13. 1 elastic band



#### Tools Needed

- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Felt pens (particularly black)
- Staplers
- Plier Stapler
- Staples
- Pencils
- Glue gun if available



#### Prep:

1. Use the broken end of the chopstick to push a hole through the centre of the bottom of the cup for the head rod.
2. Draw a circle on the back of the cup over the seam.
3. Stick the broken end of the chopstick into the ball (use glue gun glue to secure if necessary).
4. Cut felt strips for arms and legs.
5. Cut tissue paper strips for body/head.
6. Cut bits of crepe for hair.
7. Cut small squares of white paper for eyes.
8. Cut small squares of skin coloured card for hands (one piece for both hands).
9. Cut small squares of white card for feet (one piece for both feet).

#### LAT or Teacher Staff tasks:

1. Write down the student's colour requests for – skin colour, body colour, arm colour and leg colour.

## How to make a cuppet puppet (continued)

2. Plier stapler used to attach felt arms to shoulders of cup (on sides), and felt legs to bottom of cup (towards the front).
3. Regular stapler used to attach hands and feet to felt.
4. Glue gun used to secure pointy end of rod to hand of puppet (tuck it under staple/felt if possible). Stick it to the same hand the student writes with, and ensure the rod points back towards the puppeteer.

### Student Instructions for limbs:

1. Fold skin coloured card in half, cut out a hand shape – a square with a big circle on the top, cut into it to make a thumb.
2. Fold white card in half, cut out foot shape – a square with a big squashed circle on top – and colour in/use tissue to cover.
3. A grown up will attach these for you so keep them safe!

### Student Instructions for body:

1. Carefully cut out the circle to make a hole (see photo above). This is where the rod will come out.
2. Cover the cup with one piece of coloured tissue paper (the main colour of their top half). For skirts or dresses you can use a larger piece to make sure the tissue goes down lower than the cup. You can also create a collar by making sure there is extra tissue at the top of the cup.
3. Use scissors and the pointed end of the skewer to carefully re-pierce the holes through the tissue paper on the cup for the arms (for jointed version) and open the hole at the back. Use any offcuts of tissue to patch up any gaps.
4. Add details to the puppet costume such as pockets and buttons as necessary.

### Student Instructions for head:

1. Cut a thin strip off the skin coloured tissue and scrunch it into a ball to make a nose.
2. Cover the ball and the top of the chopstick 'neck' with glue.
3. Use one piece of skin coloured tissue paper to cover the head and the 'neck' of the puppet. By going down onto the rod this also helps to secure the ball onto the stick. Keep all the offcuts of skin coloured tissue paper to patch up any bald spots.
4. Add facial features to the puppet using paper/pens to make cut out eyes, tissue for lips and beards etc, felt pens for eye lashes and nostrils etc.
5. Use tissue, crepe paper and card to make hair, hats, crowns, ears etc. as necessary for your character
10. Insert the head into the body by pushing the head rod through the hole in the top of the cup and out of the large hole in the back of the cup.
11. Use the elastic band to secure the head in place by wrapping it around the head rod and pushing it up the rod towards the head until it is in a position that still allows movement, but stops the 'neck' from growing too long.
12. Enjoy using your puppet to entertain people!

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## Cuppet design sheet from Little Angel Theatre

Your name:.....

Puppet's name:.....

Puppet's skin colour:.....

Puppet's body/clothing colour:.....

.....

Puppet's arm/sleeve colour: .....

.....

What does your puppet do for a job/hobby?

.....

.....

How does your puppet move? (Bouncy, sleepy, quickly, carefully for example):

.....

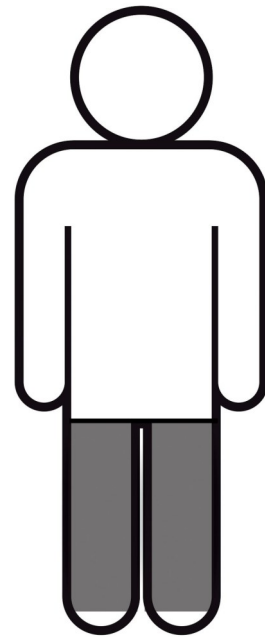
.....

Where are they in the world?

.....

When is it? In the past, the present or the future?

.....



This is the basic shape of the puppet you will make, but you can add details. If your character has a long skirt you can add this over the legs. You can make an animal puppet but it needs to be upright and follow this basic shape.

# Hands and feet templates for Cuppets

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