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**Little
Angel
Theatre**

Shakespeare CPD

Puppets in Prose



Our History

In 1961 a troupe of enthusiastic puppeteers under the leadership of South African master, John Wright, found a derelict temperance hall in Islington and transformed it into a magical little theatre, specially designed for children and for the presentation of marionette shows.

Over the next 30 years, the Little Angel company created and performed over 30 full-scale shows. They toured all over the UK and abroad, absorbed new styles by participating in International puppet festivals, collaborated with musicians on large-scale productions, and provided a constant source of inspiration and training for a new generation of puppeteers and performers.

After John Wright died in 1991, the work of the theatre continued apace under the direction of Lyndie Wright and Christopher Leith, a renowned puppeteer who had learned his craft at Little Angel. They encouraged new collaborations with writers, directors and musicians, to produce a succession of innovative and highly acclaimed shows.

Workshop Breakdown

This is a 1 hour 45 minute session and there will be time for questions at the end.

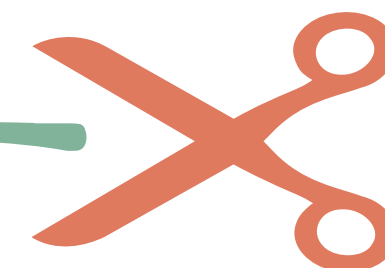
Exploration of **4 different puppet makes** and the contexts in which they are used successfully.

Top ten tips for telling stories with puppets.

Educational advantages of using oral storytelling.

Integrating puppets into your existing library activities.

Q & A



Types of Puppetry

How many do you know?

Hand



Glove and Finger



Rod



Muppets (hand in mouth – with or without rods)



Shadow



Pop Up Puppets, Paddle Puppets and jumping jacks



Marionettes





And many many more

✦ 21 in fact!

✦ but thats a different presentation.

Puppet Makes

- ✦ Cuppets (puppets constructed from a paper cup)
- ✦ Shadow Puppets
- ✦ Paper Bag Puppets
- ✦ Spoon Puppets





Task Number 1

As a group, select a Shakespeare play.

Pick 1 moment from this play.

What are the key story anchor points for
this moment?

How could you use one of our puppet
designs to create this moment?

Top Ten Tips

- Breath brings your puppet to life.
- Focus shows your audience where to look.
- Puppet personality.
- The story is the most important thing.
- Set the scene.
- Take your time
- Embrace the impossible
- Puppets love rhythm.
- Puppets can help reluctant performers
- Have fun!



The background is a solid purple color. In the top right corner, there are several light blue circles of varying sizes. In the bottom right corner, there is a cluster of small, light blue circles. In the bottom left corner, there are three orange, hand-drawn loops. The central text is contained within a white, torn-edge paper shape. The text is in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. There are also several light blue stars and a crescent moon in the top left area, and some orange starburst shapes near the top right of the white paper shape.

The educational advantages of oral storytelling

Exploring Shakespeare's conflicts using puppets



Puppets in the Library

- Rhyme-Time
- Baby toddler sensory / storytelling sessions
- An Arts and crafts club
- Story Time or read-along sessions
- Drama club
- English tutoring sessions for KS1-3
- Building your own drop-in activity.
- Building your own bookable workshop.
- Engaging with the reading challenge.

Baby Sensory and Rhyme Time

Shakespeare's plays and sonnets are full of rhyme. Could you use the visual presence of a puppet to help explain some of the rhymes?

Could the puppet represent a particular sound or mouth shape?

Can you deconstruct the themes of the play to teach through sensory play experiences? For example *The Tempest*, with water sprays, real wood and moss to feel, and thunder noises.

Could the children make magic potions to be involved.

Can making puppets play a part in story telling?

Arts & Craft clubs

Could a puppet make be part of your arts and crafts club?
Could you work together to build a set like The Tempest?
Could your arts and crafts club make a shadow play?

Story Time / Read Along

Could a puppet add to the experience of story sharing?

Could the shadow show your arts and crafts club make be presented in this context?

Are there ways of moving puppets which can help to explain rhythm and rhyme to young children?

Could the children make spoon puppets to be the characters who speak and move when the characters do?

Engaging with a reading challenge

Islington Council, hosts a summer reading challenge. This is a chance to get reluctant readers in to reading more books.

We did drop in shadow workshops as part of this challenge.

Adding an unconventional or unique element to your learning could be a great way to access pots of funding from local councils or trusts and foundations.

Drop in sessions

Running a drop in session is a great way to engage a number of families.

Think about what supervision is required for what you want to make.

Think about how you can address a wide range of abilities and ages. Potentially 2 different versions which can cater for younger and older children.

Make sure it's age appropriate.

We recommend this activity lasts a maximum of 15 minutes.

A plan for a drop in workshop will follow from this session.

Booked in sessions

Think about what a more involved craft might be. Set something challenging but achievable.
Use your ticketing systems or set up an eventbrite.
Make sure it is age appropriate.
Have extensions to enable you to build on the session.

Task Number 1

As an individual

Pick one activity which happens in your library to celebrate Shakespeare Week.

How could you introduce puppets into that activity?

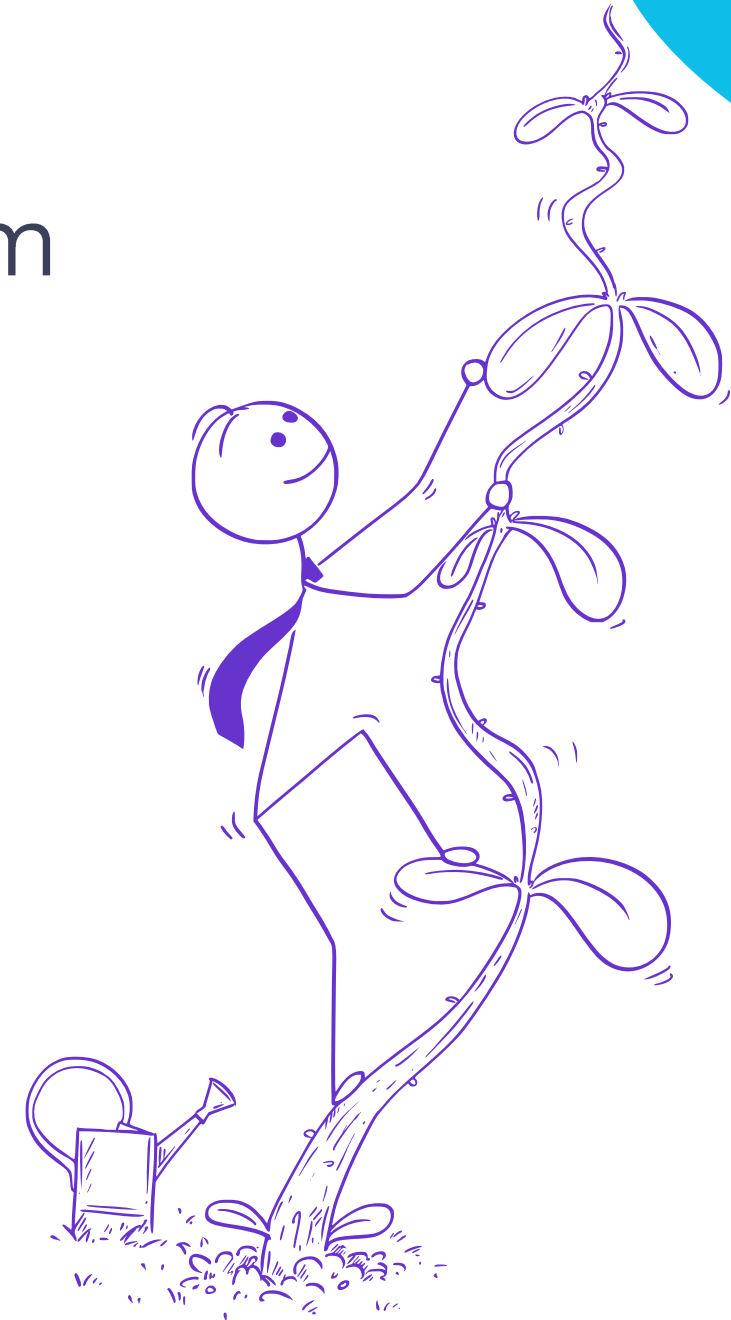
What age is this most appropriate for?

What would make this successful?

What materials do you need to make it happen.

Questions?

You can reach me at Conall@littleangeltheatre.com





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Thank you

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