



SHADOW PUPPET WORKSHOP

Suitable for Reception and KS1 and 2

Garlic Theatre's Shadow Puppet Workshop is an inspirational experience for your children. The workshop can be linked to the science of light and shadow, storytelling and we can also help you to work creatively with books such as *Where the Wild Things Are*.

Shadow puppets can be simple and can be complex, but always look fantastic on a big screen so they can hugely enhance self-esteem and creativity in children.

Mark and Iklooshar have 20 years experience of running workshops in school settings.

Logistics

A one day workshop can accommodate 2 classes Each session lasts for 1 and a half hours minimum.

Suitable for Reception and Year 1 up to Year 6. Each workshop will be tailored to the abilities of the students.

Maximum 30 students per session

Making the shadow puppet

Draw a simple drawing in pencil on a sheet of stiff card making sure that you use the whole page. This could be a simple shape for a sun, fish, flower - the simpler the better.

Cut out the drawing as a silhouette. This is your shadow puppet. Use the drawing as a guide and don't worry if the cut out is not exact.

Cut shapes inside the shadow puppet

Cover with coloured gel and stick with Sellotape

Make a moving part such as an arm or a jaw for example by using a split pin.

Attach sticks to the puppet. Try out different positions so that the puppet moves smoothly

Manipulating the shadow puppet

First experiment with the shadows cast by your hands

Then hold the shadow puppet against a screen with a light behind.

Move the puppet slowly against the screen. Experiment with different rhythms - walking, dancing, flying.

Take the puppet away from the screen slowly towards the light and see what happens. Twist the puppet in the light.

Play with different light sources - an overhead projector, different kinds of LED lights and torches

Try to make the puppet move by moving the light source and not the puppet.

Play with different scale, making different puppets different sizes through the position of the puppet and the light source. Talk about how this changes the relationship between the puppets.

Making a shadow screen

To make a simple shadow screen hang a white sheet from a pole. Shine a table light behind or use an overhead projector to give more interesting results.

Take a large box and set it on a table top. Cut out a hole like a TV screen. Cover with paper. Shine a light behind.

Here's how you can link these puppetry sessions to the curriculum

- Making and using puppets helps pupils to connect with a character and feeds into their writing (English/Writing)
- Using puppets, they have made to explore stories and scenarios is an exciting way to inspire writing and encourages speaking (English/Writing/Speaking)
- Speaking through a puppet they have made inspires confidence in even the most reluctant speaker (English/Speaking)
- Puppet making is a craft and children will learn new skills and explore their creativity through the process of designing and making a puppet (Art and Design)
- Puppet making involves designing and making a purposeful, functional creation and can be evaluated to test its functionality and appeal to an audience (Design and Technology)
- Depending on the type of puppets you make you can also link puppetry with history, topics, science and R.E.

Garlic Theatre are happy to talk to you about bringing a workshop to your school. For more information or to make a booking please contact Rosie or Ikloosha from Garlic Theatre Tel 01953 609141 or email info@garlictheatre.org.uk