



## TALKING BEAN POT PUPPETS

A workshop with Garlic Theatre for reception and Year 1

The Talking Bean Pot Puppet Workshop is linked to Garlic Theatre's performance of Jack and the Beans Talk. It can also be booked as an independent workshop linked easily to the following themes:

Where food comes from  
Springtime  
Growing  
Storytelling  
Jack and the Beanstalk

Logistics  
One session lasts 1 hour and a half  
Suitable for Reception and Year 1  
Maximum 30 students per session  
Schools must provide tables and chairs

### Making the bean pot puppet

Please note that we encourage each child to practice the motor skills of cutting with scissors. However cardboard cut outs and elements of these puppets are provided as back up and this means that the creative process is relaxed and not dependent on the cutting out skills of the participants

All children are encouraged to work in pairs for some of the puppet making process Mark and Ikloosha have many fun strategies to encourage and help the children in the structural parts of the puppet making.

Draw a circle out of card and cut it out. Cut out 2 extra strips of card.

Create a character by cutting out a nose and drawing a face

Take 1 peat pot and fill it with a spoon of either rice or beans. Take the strip of card and put it in the pot. Put another pot over the first pot.

Secure the pots together with masking tape

Attach the head to the strip of card. Make a handle with the other strip of card.

Decorate the puppets with arms, feet and hair using a combination of different materials - coloured card, pipe cleaners and felt tip pens

### Circle time with the bean puppets

We will explore the sounds of the puppets and their dancing movements with live music and games.

We will explore how the puppets can sleep, wake up and move to different rhythms

Mark and Ikloosha will then encourage the children to look at each other's puppets and give each child the opportunity to talk about the characters that they have made using role play

The children can then put the puppets aside and we sing songs about beans with guitar and mbira instruments.

Children then can explore the movements of sleeping, growing and dancing beans using their bodies.

### 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)

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