

Under 2`s Activities

Sock Puppets



Resources Needed:

Puppets can be made from a variety of items already in the home (not just socks!). You could use old kitchen utensils (wooden spoons are very easy to turn into puppets) or make smaller finger puppets if you have some old gloves. Here's what you will need to make a classic sock puppet:

- Socks
- Felt or old materials or clothes which you can cut up to create hair, eyes, or ears
- Pom-poms for noses/ eyes (but you can always stitch these in with wool or thick thread)
- Thread and needle and/or glue (hot glue gun is the easiest option, please adults only, or mouldable glue which are fun for children to create themselves)
- Optional
 - Pipe cleaners
 - Wooden spoons
 - Goggley eyes

Duration:

Open ended, as long as children can keep their interest.

Intent:

Create your own puppets. For the children to explore the marks that they make and be entertained as they play with their new creations, or to watch in amazement as their adults put on a show.

Implementation:

You can use old socks and/or art and craft materials with glue, (make sure young children are supervised). You could model the sock puppet on your child's ideas or drawings. Children can use glue to attach material to the puppet or adults can thread (your child will not be looking for the neatest sewing, so the materials stay on better). You can use the colour of the sock as inspiration, such a pink sock being appropriate for a pig sock puppet or black and white stripes for a zebra. Toddlers will love wearing the socks and creating their



own stories. Younger babies and toddlers will love adults to put on a little puppet show for them.

Extend: You can continue to do this creating many different puppets using different or old clothes and materials you have in the house. From animals to people, or even if it turns out to be something unnameable the process and the play opportunities will bring so much joy and excitement for the whole family. Reading stories using our sock puppets or props you have at home. You can have different kitchen trays filled with different materials such as cotton wool for snow, twigs in another for the forest, water in another for the river. Whilst reading the story you go through the different elements.

Keywords and Language:

Single words: hold, draw, mark, look, glue, stick, open, close. Naming simple colours, exploring the different shapes, naming face parts (eyes, ears, nose, hair) and finding them, create different sounds and stories once puppet have been created.

EYFS Learning Outcomes:

- Personal, Social and Emotional:
 - Engages other person to help achieve a goal (8-20 months)
 - Enjoys finding own nose, eyes or tummy as part of a naming game (8-20 months)
 - Plays cooperatively with adult (16-26 months)
 - Responds to a few appropriate boundaries, with encouragement and support (16-26 months)
- Communication and Language:
 - Developing the ability to follow others' body language, including pointing and gesture (8-20 months)
 - Copies familiar expressions e.g. "all gone" (16-26 months)
 - Listens to and enjoys rhythmic patterns in rhymes and stories (16-26 months)
 - Understands simple sentences (16-26 months)
- Physical Development:
 - Reaches out for, touches and begins to hold objects (0-11 months)
 - Picks up small objects between thumb and fingers (8-20 months)
 - Passes one toy from one hand to another (8-20 months)
 - Makes connections between their movement and the marks they make (16-26 months)

