



PUPPET PLAY

Suits ages 8 – 36 months



What you will need:

- A range of different puppets – these can be home made with socks.

What you do:

1. Provide your child with a range of puppets to play with.
2. If you are making puppets with your child using old socks, engage your child in discussions about what puppets they would like to create for their puppet show. This will encourage your child to think about not only what characters they want but also what the story will be about.
3. Use the puppets as you read a story or sing a song e.g. during the Old MacDonald song you or your child could take turns putting on the correct animal puppet as you sing.
4. If your child is older they can use the puppets to create their own stories which you can join, allowing your child to lead the activity and tell you which puppets to use and when.

This is the perfect activity to engage your child in imaginative play through creating stories, using the puppets and their voices/actions to represent the puppets they have. You will be supporting your child's development in both expressive arts and design and in communication and language.

Additionally, this activity will support self-awareness and confidence as your child expresses and engages themselves through imaginative play. Fine motor skills are also developed as your child uses the puppets.