

CRAFT STICK PUPPETS

This activity is provided by Calgary Public Library to help you and your family have a fun and engaging winter together, both at home and out in the community.

Enjoy this simple, hands-on activity to create stick puppets from wooden craft sticks and other simple items.

MATERIALS TO FIND AT HOME

- Scissors
- Markers, pencil crayons, pencils, or pens
- String/ribbon
- Jumbo craft sticks
- Glue stick
- Coloured paper
- Eye stickers
- Pipe cleaners
- Crinkle-cut paper strips
- Pompoms and cotton balls

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

There are enough items included in this kit to create three craft stick puppets.

1. Cut the coloured paper to create a head, body, hat, other clothes, etc, and glue these pieces to a craft stick.
 2. Add eye stickers to your head — or wherever you want! You can also draw your own unique set of eyes.
Draw a mouth on your puppet as well.
 3. Wrap a pipe cleaner around the stick to create arms, legs, a scarf, trim for a hat, a belt, or other items you can think of.
 4. Use the crinkle-cut paper strips for hair, fur, a beard, or the fringe of the coat or hat. Use your imagination!
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5. Add pompoms and cotton balls for decoration. For example, you could use them as a nose, a bobble for a hat, buttons on a coat or pants, or a tail.

ADDITIONAL IDEAS FOR STICK PUPPETS

Winter Fish

1. Trace your hand on a piece of coloured paper and cut out the design with scissors.
2. Turn sideways so your fingers are the tail, then add the eye stickers at the front.
3. Add sequins, rhinestones, or glitter to customize your fish puppet.
4. Glue a craft stick to the back of the cut-out and set aside to dry.

Repeat using different coloured paper to create a rainbow of handprints.

Snow person

1. Colour a craft stick white using paint, crayons, or chalk paint. This will be the body.
2. Cut out a small circle from white paper and glue it to the top of the stick to make the head.
3. Add eye stickers, then draw small black circles in a smile shape to make the mouth. For the nose, cut out and glue a small triangle of coloured paper to the small white circle.
4. Make a stovepipe hat from black paper: a square for the hat and a long thin rectangle for the brim. You can add some strips of crinkle-cut paper just above the brim as a ribbon.
5. Wrap a pipe cleaner around the stick just below the head as a scarf.
6. Glue pompoms down the stick as buttons.

To make an ornament instead of a puppet, cut out and glue on two more white circles to the craft stick for the body of the snow person, instead of painting the stick. Glue the pompoms onto these circles. Glue some string in a long loop to the back of the snow person to hang it as an ornament.