

TITLE:

Using Puppetry to Explore Characters in a Book

DEVELOPED BY:

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ART FORM:

Dance/Movement

Drama

Music

Puppetry

Multi-disciplinary / _____

OBJECTIVE(S)/GOAL:

Children will be able to:

- recall details from a story
- interact with the puppet by answering the puppet's questions and asking the puppet questions

VOCABULARY:**Arts Vocabulary**

Puppet

Puppeteer

Content Vocabulary

Beginning, Middle, End

Character

Plot

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Any puppet that relates to the story being addressed

MAIN EXPERIENCE:

Introduce the puppet without putting it on your hands. Many children are nervous about inanimate

objects that move and talk. Explore what the puppet looks like. What is the puppet wearing? Can they guess who the character might be? Then ask permission of the class to make the puppet talk. After trust is established the next character can be introduced and may not need this intro. The children will probably just ask the puppet to talk right away.

Many options are possible for the puppet character to interact with the children. Below are a few examples:

- The character can be confused. Start to tell the story and then say, “Wait is that what happens next?”
- The character can tell the class about a problem that is similar to a problem in a book and get the children to help solve that problem hopefully with the solution from the book.
- The character may not know which book they come from and tell the children a little about themselves and then see if the children can figure out where the character comes from.

Puppets can ask the children open ended questions to assess their understanding and recall of a book. Questions can be about other characters, the setting or even the plot. Once children master answer questions, encourage the children to ask the puppet questions that are not answered the story.

Before ending an experience with a puppet, allow the children to say good-bye. If it is appropriate the puppet can be left out in the room for the children to use and imitate being the puppeteer.
