



Piccadilly Puppets Classroom Guide

Puppetry 101



In this video presentation, the puppeteer talks about puppetry as an art form and as a career. She demonstrates five main types of puppetry (Hand, Rod, Shadow, Marionette and Body) and shares short clips from puppet shows. Students will also learn how science comes into play when puppets are being designed.

HISTORY

Piccadilly Puppets has been entertaining and educating students for fifty years! Our professional puppeteers have extensive experience working with children. We use a variety of puppetry styles and offer a varied repertoire of programs that relate to curriculum.

- ◆ Awarded the UNIMA Citation for Excellence in the Art of Puppetry
- ◆ Formerly on the Artist Roster of Arts For Learning

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SCIENCE STANDARD

S4P1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the nature of light and how light interacts with objects.

2

THEATRE ART STANDARD

TA.CN.1 Explore how theatre connects to life experience, careers, and other content.

3

THEATRE ART STANDARD

TA.RE.2 Critique various aspects of theatre and other media

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to identify the 5 main types of puppets: rod, hand, shadow, marionette and body and recognize them in a clip from a show.

Students will be able to explain how science can be used in puppet design.

Students will become more aware of the possibilities of puppetry as an art form and a career.

Vocabulary

◆ Puppet

◆ Puppetry

◆ Marionette

◆ Puppeteer

◆ Manipulation

Assess the Learning : Questions to Ask the Students Following the Program

What is a puppet?

What are the five types of puppets demonstrated in this video? Can you think of an example shown from each type?

How do shadow puppets work?

How many strings were on the Spiralina Toepick ice skating marionette?

Discuss other puppets you may have seen, either in a live show or in film or television.

Extend the Learning: Post-Show Activities

Have the students make a paper bag puppet. Which type of puppet is it?

Have the students make a shadow puppet out of card stock (Piccadilly Puppets can send a template).

Have the students research puppets in television and film. Good examples for younger children are *Sesame Street* & *Between the Lions*. Older students (4th-5th grades) might want to look up puppetry in *Star Wars*, *Jurassic Park* and *The Dark Crystal* (either the movie or the Netflix series).

Discuss puppetry as a career. Students might be fascinated to know that Frank Oz was the original puppeteer for both Yoda and Miss Piggy.

Additional Resources

Piccadilly Puppets: We have three other virtual puppet shows available to your class for a small fee: *Butterfly Ballad*, *Cat and Mouse Tales*, and a brand new, updated 15-minute version of *Cherokee Tales*.
www.piccadillypuppets.org

We also have four short Aesop's Fables available for FREE: https://youtu.be/ay9nuB7_0h0

Behind-the-Scenes Videos from the Center for Puppetry Arts: <https://www.youtube.com/user/CtrPuppetryArts>

The Muppets YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MuppetsStudio>

Books:

[Simple Puppets from Everyday Materials](#) by Barbara MacDonald Buetter

[Worlds of Shadow: Teaching with Shadow Puppetry](#) by David and Donna Wisniewski

