

Starcatchers' #WeeInspirations

5 ways with... PUPPETS!

Toys are Puppets!

You might feel a bit lost with how to approach puppets but, as puppeteer Charlotte Allan says: "a puppet is any object you give a sense of life". You can watch along with Charlotte's video, but here are her top tips for making the toys you have into living, breathing puppets!



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1



Eye Contact Who do you want the wee one to look at? Make eye contact with them when you're talking, but look at the puppet when it's talking. It'll help give your puppet a voice and make them feel more "real".

2



Gravity Play around with gravity. Toy birds can swoop around in the air, whereas a horse or rabbit may prefer walking on the floor. But what happens when is sucked up by an alien spaceship? Or if your rabbit suddenly learns how to fly?

3



Breath Take a moment to think about how your puppet would breathe in and out - this will affect how they speak! If you think your wee one needs some quiet time, you could take some deep breaths in and out together and use a quieter voice.

4



Silly Voices When it comes to voices - go for it! We can feel a bit silly when we fully commit, but it makes it all the more exciting for our wee ones and shows them what a confident adult looks like. Your voices don't have to make total sense: a plastic dinosaur can be a pirate, why not?

5



Best Friends Maybe your puppet is a little bit shy and needs some time to feel comfortable talking to everyone - that's okay! Have them "whisper" in your wee one's ear and ask them what they said. It's a great way to let the wee one take control of the play.