

More Than You Want to Know – blah blah blah

Resources: Try **puppetry** as subject in your catalog or Google.

Some questions to ask yourself as you think about puppets in storytimes.

STAGE: not crucial but adds to the magic of puppets; some things to consider:

- a. Storytime room vrs. Public space
- b. permanent set up vrs. tear down each time
- c. Room size - BIG vrs. small
- d. Some options – table, rolling cart, box, or . . .
retired plumber! Our stage made by a retired plumber. Email:
moore@neenahlibrary.org for more information or plans

Who is available to help you with puppets?

Other staff, another department, parent, volunteer, retired teacher (or laid off teacher?)
Someone experienced or new; someone who will ad lib or stick to script?

How many hands? Crucial.

Will puppets appear en masse or will they arrive in succession?

What puppets are available to you? And what puppets would you like to add?!

Funding source – your Friends group?

Maybe a creative approach, like Adopt an Animal (like zoos do!)

- A question arose about the ‘size of puppets and the size of our hands’
- Consider hand crafted puppets. Some of our current favorites are ‘home made felt’ frogs!

What abilities do your puppets possess? 2 abilities most crucial to consider.

Paws/Arms? Really hold? Or just push?

Moveable mouths, if they are to sing or speak much.

Consider their abilities when you cast your play. Adapt Adapt Adapt to what you have.

Props: Very simple can be very effective.

Always be on the look-out: home, rummage sales, dollar stores and the
Library **LOST AND FOUND!**

When to look for specific props? NOW! (Always be on the lookout for cool stuff.)

Pre/Post Halloween is an excellent time for certain items. (pink boas!)

Spring – Little white ducks.

1 Person: Skits (not puppet friend or assistant)

Work off lap. Covered basket next to you. Puppets appear in succession.

If behind a stage – and adults not already in audience – ask a parent to sit in.

VERY simple props.

Do traditional tales you know. (Gingerbread Man)

Everyone sing the song. (Old MacDonald)

Involve kids.