



Wooden Spoon Puppet

Make a puppet using the wooden spoons that you have in your kitchen.

You may want to ask an adult to buy you some new spoons though, rather than using ones that have been cooked with! New wooden spoons are really quite cheap to buy.



Equipment

1. One wooden spoon for each puppet that you want to make. You can buy wooden spoons from any large department store, supermarket or hardware store.
2. Some wool or embroidery thread.
3. A length of ribbon and various other items as decorations.
4. A selection of poster paints and paintbrushes.
5. A pair of scissors.
6. Some paper glue (such as Copydex).

Safety Stuff

Always check with an adult before you begin, so that if you need their help they're not taken by surprise. Working with items such as scissors can be dangerous, so be very careful when you use them. Make sure that you never leave them open or lying around where smaller children can reach them.

Before starting to make any of the puppets, cover the work surface you're going to use with some newspaper or an old cloth, and make sure that you're wearing an apron or some old clothes. Then gather together all the items you'll need before you begin.

A lot of the things you'll need can probably be found by hunting around the home, but remember to check with an adult before you take anything. Just because it's there doesn't mean that you can use it!

When you've finished, don't forget to tidy everything away. Wash any paint brushes you've used and remember to put the tops back on pens, paint and glue pots.

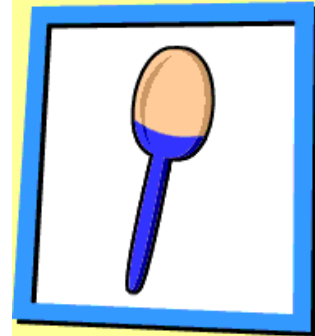
Steps

Step One

The bowl of the spoon will be the head of the puppet. Paint the head of the wooden spoon. What colour head does the puppet have? It could be any colour!

Then stand the spoon upright in a jam jar while the paint dries.

Next, paint the handle of the spoon in a different colour and again leave it to dry.

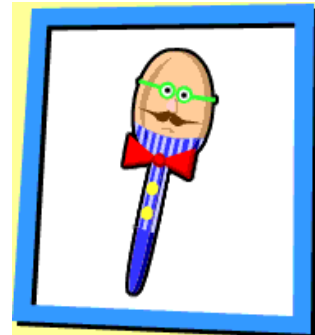


Step Two

The handle of the spoon is the puppet's body.

Decorate the handle with spots, stripes (a stripy shirt?), buttons, a collar and a bow tie, or what can you think of?

Paint a face on the head of the spoon and let it dry.



Step Three

Next decide whether your spoon puppet is male or female. Is it young or old?

To add some hair, cut several strands of wool or embroidery thread, making sure they are all the same length. Glue the hair onto the top of the spoon. Only use a little bit of glue so that you can't see it, and then leave it to dry.

Your wooden spoon puppet is now finished.

Step Four

You could make a selection of puppets and then put on a show for older friends or family.

You can easily have two puppets on stage at the same time - just hold one in each hand! Can you think of a way to have more than two wooden spoon puppets on stage?

Design and make a wooden spoon puppet holder that will support the puppets that you are not holding.

