



Monster Sock Puppet

Episode 20

Introduction

Did you know that playing pretend develops literacy skills? It's true! Pretending develops a child's storytelling abilities, also known as narrative skills, an important early literacy stepping stone. Finding ways to encourage your child to play pretend is important.

This monster sock puppet is great for playing pretend; plus, it's great to use with a set of flannel shapes for a fun shape recognition game!



Supplies

- Colorful sock
- Carboard
- Hot glue gun (tacky glue or super glue works, too)
- Scissors
- Fabric (felt, if possible)
- Template (see attached)
- Decorative elements such as googly eyes and pom poms

Instructions

1. Cut cardboard and felt ovals: Cut one oval out of cardboard and two matching ovals out of felt (template on page 3); cut the cardboard oval in half short-ways
2. Glue cardboard and felt: Glue the cardboard halves onto one felt oval; leave a little space between the halves. Glue the second felt oval to the other side of the cardboard. You should be able to fold the cardboard-and-felt oval in half.
3. Cut toes off the socks and glue the oval: Cut the toe area off the sock and pull the sock onto your arm. Put the oval into this opening and roll the edges of the sock over the edges of the oval, then glue the sock's edges around the oval's edges.

Additional Resources

Visit Plano Public Library's official [YouTube channel](#) to view this activity and other Library Make videos

Check out our blog post about this activity at [Plano Library Learns](#)

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Instructions, continued

4. Decorate: Glue eyes cut out of felt or googly eyes to the top of the puppet; try using pom poms to make those eyes pop. Try adding felt spikes to its back, a bow on its head, small felt dots, or pom poms all over the puppet, or whatever you and your child imagine!



Glue cardboard to felt; leave space between halves.



Cut off toe area of sock.



Roll sock's edges over oval's edges; glue in place.

How to Use Your Monster Sock Puppet

While this puppet is great for your child's pretend play, you can also use it with shapes cut out of felt for a fun shape-recognition game. Lay out the felt shapes; then with your puppet, sing this song (tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"):

Shape Monster, Shape Monster, munch munch munch,
What kind of shape do you want for lunch?

Ask your child to name a shape, and then let the shape monster "eat" it! Keep going until all the shapes have been eaten (hint: use the rhyme card printable on page 3). Don't forget to play pretend with your little monster (and your puppet!) and develop narrative skills.

Additional Resources

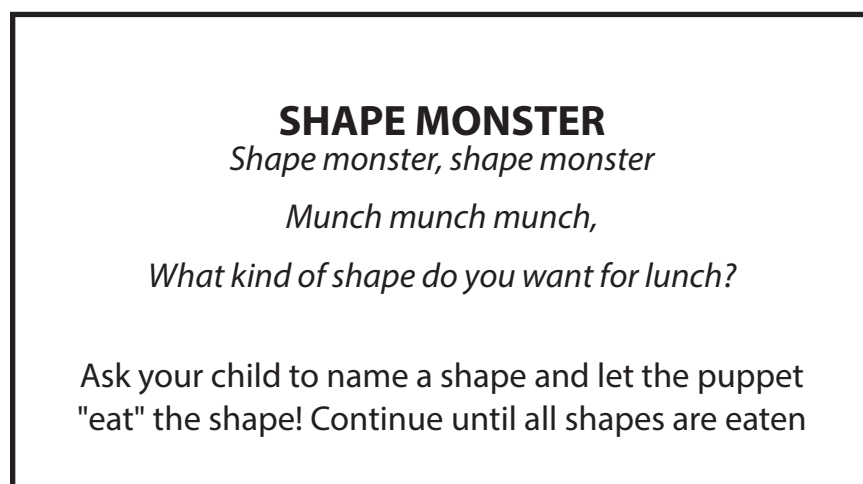
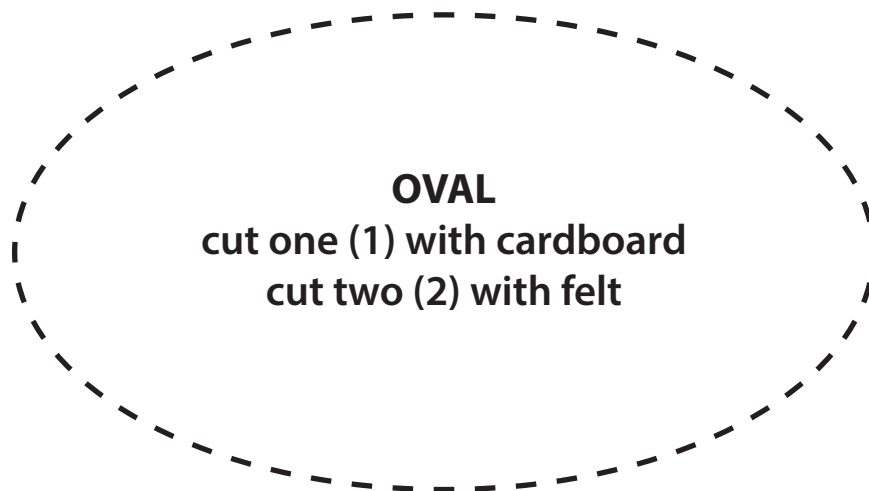
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Templates



Cut this card out and keep it with
your puppet and shapes!

