



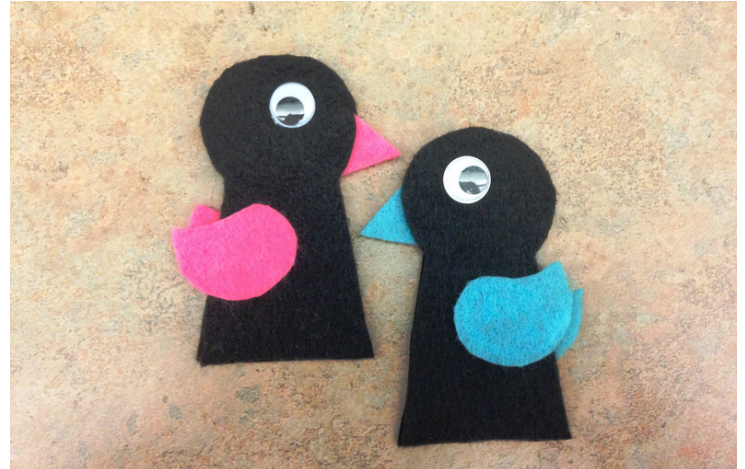
Two Little Blackbirds Puppets

Episode 4

Introduction

Nursery rhymes teach children valuable literacy skills, like the rhythm and rhyme of language as well as new vocabulary. Even better, experts have found that children who start kindergarten knowing at least eight nursery rhymes are among the best readers of their class by age eight!

You can make nursery rhymes extra fun with props like our felt finger puppets for the rhyme "Two Little Blackbirds". These puppets are also great for play-pretending & making up your own stories!



Supplies

- Black felt fabric - 1 sheet is enough
- Felt fabric in two more colors (you choose!)
- Glue - felt glue or tacky glue is best
- 4 googly eyes
- Scissors

Instructions

1. Cut out felt for your blackbirds: Use our template on page 4, cut out the body of the blackbirds from your black felt. To make two finger puppets, cut four pieces. Then, with one of your other colors of felt, cut out one beak and two wings.

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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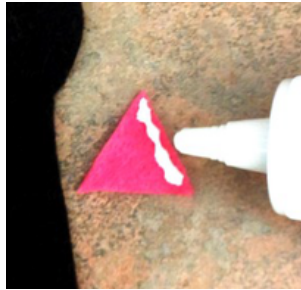


Two Little Blackbirds Puppets

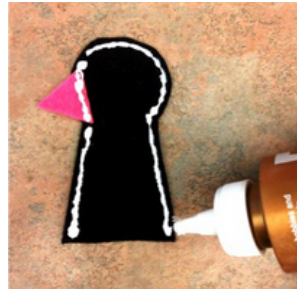
Episode 4

Instructions, continued

2. Glue felt pieces together: Put glue along one edge of a "beak" piece, then place it close to the edge of the round area a "body" piece (see pictures below). Next, squeeze a thin line of glue around the outer edge of the body EXCEPT for the bottom edge, then place a second body piece on top and press together. Finally, take the wing pieces and glue them to the middle of each side of your bird, one per side. Be careful when handling the glued pieces—your glue probably isn't dry yet!
3. Add googly eyes: Place one googly eye on each side of the blackbird near the beak and fasten it with glue.



Glue on beak



Glue the body



Glue the wings



Googly eyes!

4. Repeat all steps: Use your remaining felt pieces to create a second finger puppet, then wait for all pieces to dry. Be patient—it'll be worth the wait!

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Two Little Blackbirds Puppets

Episode 4

How to Use Your Blackbird Finger Puppets

Put on your new finger puppets and practice the following rhyme with your child:

Two little blackbirds sitting on a hill,
One named Jack and one named Jill.
Fly away Jack; fly away Jill.
Come back Jack; come back Jill.

For more variations, see the rhyme card printable on page 4. Try matching your actions with the finger puppets to each verse of the rhyme. But don't stop with "Two Little Blackbirds"—after you practice the rhyme, play pretend with your new finger puppets! Pretending is a great way to learn to tell stories, just another way to strengthen your child's narrative skills and get them ready to read.



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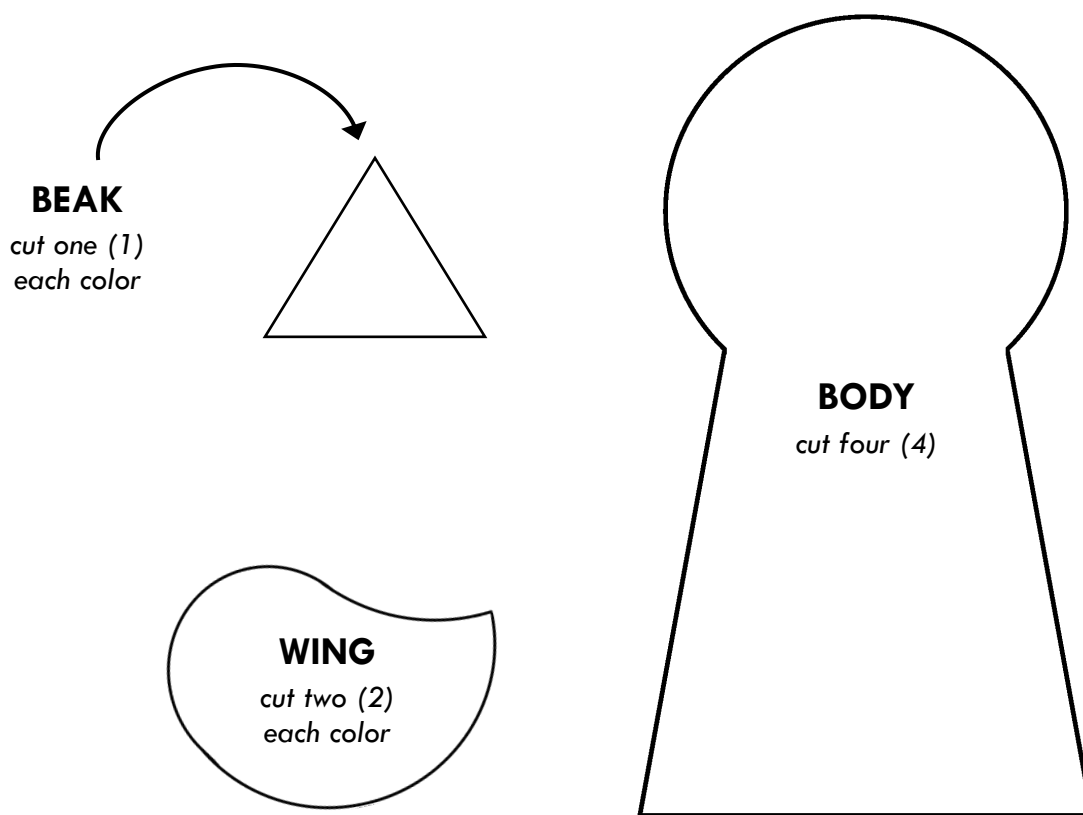
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TEMPLATES



Cut out this card and keep with your finger puppets!

TWO LITTLE BLACKBIRDS

Two little blackbirds sitting on a hill,
One named Jack and one named Jill.
Fly away Jack; fly away Jill.
Come back Jack; come back Jill.

Two little blackbirds sitting on a snow,
One named Fast and one named Slow...

Two little blackbirds sitting on a gate,
One named Early and one named Late...

Two little blackbirds sitting on a cloud,
One named Soft and one named LOUD!...

MORE OPPOSITES

Sitting on the ice... Mean/Nice

Sitting on a lily... Serious/Silly

Sitting on a mop... Bottom/Top

Flying in the sky... Low/High

Sitting on a car... Near/Far