

Puppets

Puppetry can be an effective and entertaining means for conveying simple messages. Use some of the puppets featured here to teach various activities found in the **Wee Recyclers Activity Guide**. Encourage children to speak their own messages through puppets. The puppets are made with a variety of reusable materials. Discuss with your children the materials being used, what the items were before becoming puppet parts and what other items could be reused to make puppets.

Paper Bag Puppets

Materials:

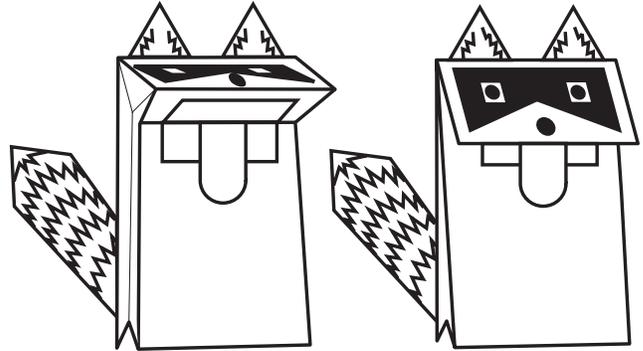
-  clean, used paper bags
-  scissors
-  glue
-  scraps of construction paper
-  pieces of yarn and ribbon
-  crayons or markers
-  buttons cut from old shirts
-  paperboard tubes from paper toweling or food wrap
-  patterns*

* Patterns for some of the puppets can be found in the **Wee Recyclers Online Resources**, <http://dnr.wi.gov/eek/teacher/weerecyclers.htm>. These patterns are for a standard lunch bag that will fit an adult's hand. Little children will still be able to manipulate the "mouth" of the standard lunch bag, but they will not be able to use the finger holes for arms. You may want to look for smaller bags that will fit your children's hands and reduce the size of the patterns.

Wee Reggie puppet

Procedure:

1. Find the patterns for Wee Reggie in the **Wee Recyclers Resources**, reproduce them and cut out.
2. Trace the patterns using crayons or markers.
3. Glue Reggie's head to the bottom of a small paper bag and glue the Wee Recycler logo to the front of the bag.
4. Insert your hand into the bag and mark where your "pinky" finger and thumb touch the side of the bag. Cut out two "arm" holes in the sides of the paper bag.
5. Your "pinky" finger and thumb will be Reggie's arms.



Rocky Raccoon*

Procedure:

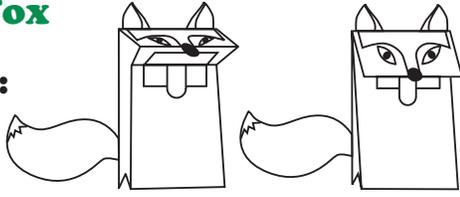
1. Find the patterns for Rocky Raccoon in the **Wee Recyclers Online Resources** <http://dnr.wi.gov/eek/teacher/weerecyclers.htm>.
2. Trace the patterns on pieces of colored construction paper and cut them out.
3. Glue the construction paper pieces in place on a small paper bag.
4. Use small dark buttons for the center of Rocky's eyes.
5. Use a brown and black crayon or marker to color the rings on Rocky's tail and the inside of his ears.
6. Insert your hand into the bag and mark where your "pinky" finger and thumb touch the side of the bag. Cut out two "arm" holes in the sides of the paper bag.
7. Your "pinky" finger and thumb will be Rocky's forepaws.

* Adapted from materials developed by Karen Fiedler, Waukesha County Solid Waste Supervisor.

Freddy Fox

Procedure:

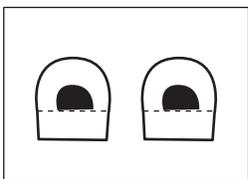
1. Find the patterns for Freddy Fox in the **Wee Recyclers Online Resources** <http://dnr.wi.gov/eek/teacher/weerecyclers.htm>.
2. Trace the patterns on pieces of colored construction paper and cut them out.
3. Glue the construction paper pieces in place on a small paper bag.
4. Using crayons, color the inside of Freddy's eyes yellow and shade the outside of his ears orange.
5. Insert your hand into the bag and mark where your "pinky" finger and thumb touch the side of the bag. Cut out two "arm" holes in the sides of the paper bag.
6. Your "pinky" finger and thumb will be Freddy's forepaws.



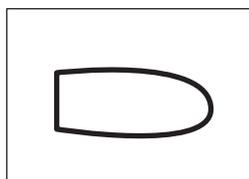
Frog

Procedure:

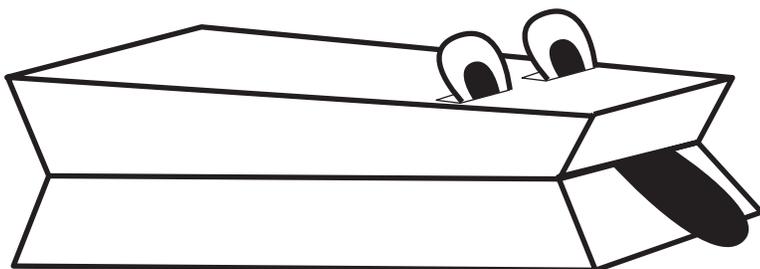
1. Take a small paper bag and fold the bottom of the bag in half. This is the frog's mouth.
2. Help children cut out a long tongue from construction paper and glue it to the bottom of the frog's mouth.
3. Cut out two half-circles from construction paper and make small folds along the straight edge to make tabs. Children can color in the pupil with a dark crayon and glue the eyes onto the bag so that they stand upright.



Green eyes
Color pupils black



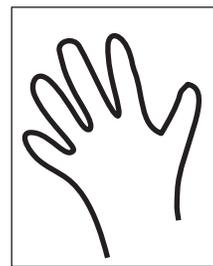
Red tongue



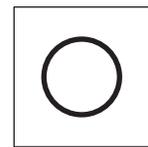
Recycle Reindeer

Procedure:

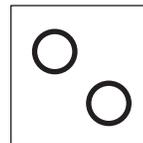
1. Help children trace around their hand on a folded paper bag (two layers of paper). Cut out the hand shapes for the reindeer's antlers.
2. Help children glue the antlers onto the top of a second paper bag.
3. Let children cut out a nose, two eyes and spots from scraps of construction paper and glue them to the reindeer's body.



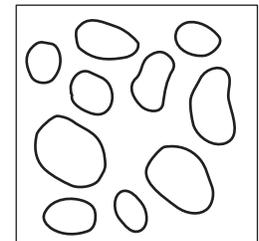
Brown Antlers



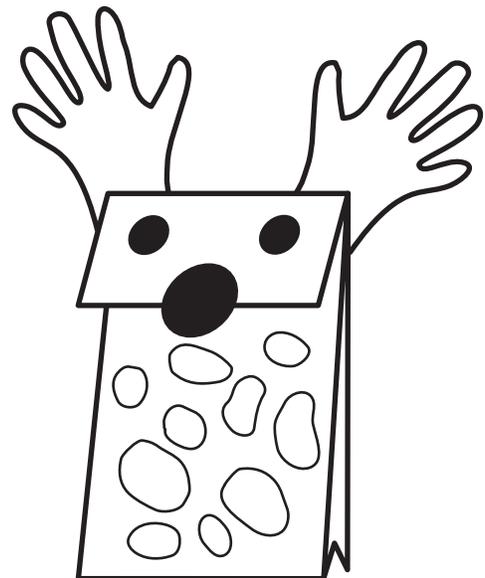
Red nose



Blue or black eyes



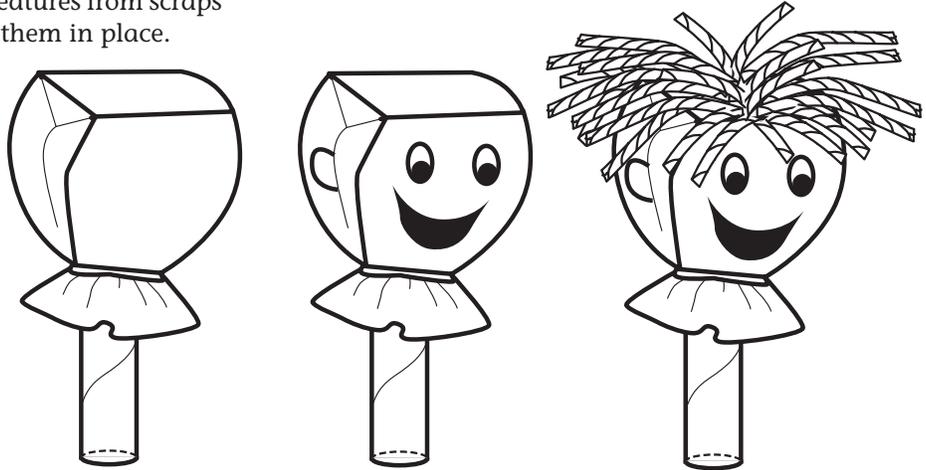
White Spots



Wee Recycler

Procedure:

1. Have your children draw a face on a small paper bag with crayons, or cut facial features from scraps of construction paper and glue them in place.
2. Open a small paper bag and let children stuff it tightly with wads of newspaper.
3. Insert a paperboard tube into the open end of the bag and tie the bag securely to the tube with a piece of string.
4. Help children cut yarn into short pieces and glue them to the bag for hair.
5. For a collar, cut the bottom of the bag into strips.



Paper Plate Puppets

Materials:

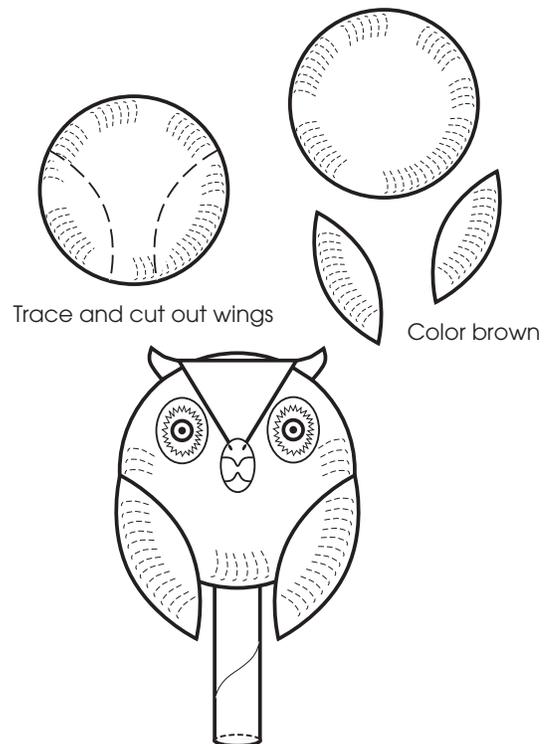
- unwanted paper plates
- scraps of construction paper
- pieces of yarn, ribbon, string
- buttons
- paperboard tubes
- scissors
- glue
- masking tape
- crayons
- patterns*

* Pattern for Olivia Owl found in the **Wee Recyclers Online Resources** <http://dnr.wi.gov/eek/teacher/weerecyclers.htm>.

Olivia Owl

Procedure:

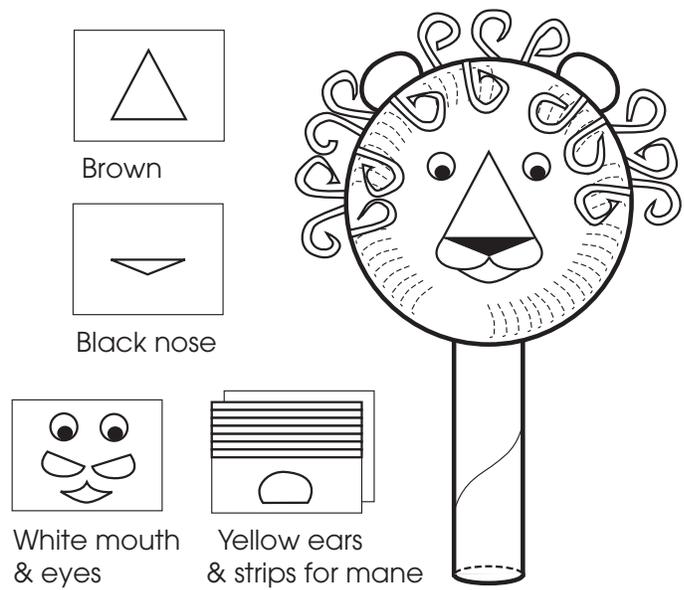
1. Two paper plates will be needed to make this puppet. Find the patterns for Olivia Owl in the **Wee Recyclers Online Resources**.
2. Trace all patterns (except the wings) onto scrap pieces of paper and color designated areas. Cut out the patterns.
3. Trace the wing pattern twice along the edge of a paper plate. Cut out the wings.
4. Color the wings and the second paper plate with brown and orange crayons.
5. Glue the construction paper pieces and wings in place on the whole paper plate.
6. Attach a paperboard tube to the back of the plate using masking tape.



Recycle Lion

Procedure:

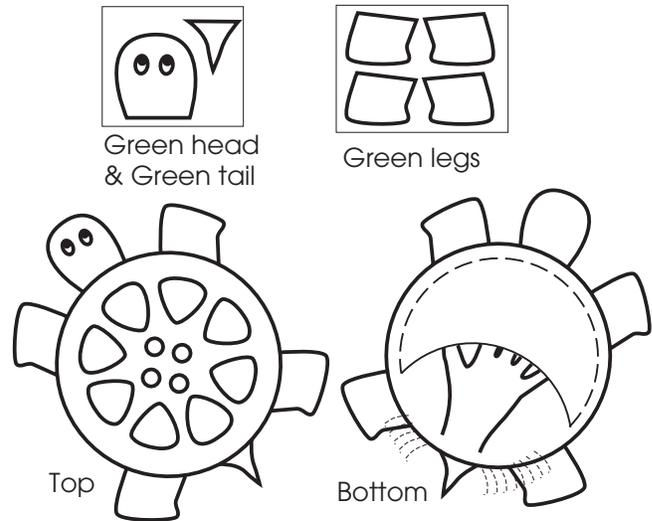
1. Let children color a paper plate yellow or gold.
2. Help children trace and cut out circles, half-circles and triangles from scraps of construction paper to make Recycle Lion's face. Help them glue the shapes onto the paper plate as shown in the picture.
3. To make Recycle Lion's mane, cut rectangular strips of yellow construction paper. Show children how to roll each strip around a pencil to make it curl. Have children glue the curled strips around the edge of the paper plate. Variations: Yarn or ribbon may also be used to make the mane.
4. Attach a paperboard tube to the back of the plate using masking tape.



Turtle

Procedure:

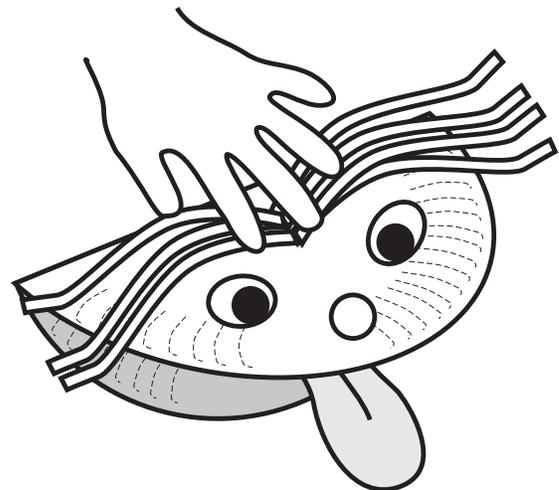
1. One and a half paper plates will be needed to make each turtle. On the back of one paper plate, let children draw a turtle shell design with green crayons.
2. Help children cut out a head, tail and legs for the turtle from green paper. Glue these pieces to the under edge of the shell.
4. Cut a second paper plate in half and staple or glue one half to the bottom of the turtle shell so that a pocket is formed in which to insert your hand.



Big Mouth

Procedure:

1. Help children fold a paper plate in half.
2. Have children cut out features from scraps of paper and glue them to the paper plate. Glue on pieces of yarn or ribbon for hair.
3. Children should place their thumb on the lower half of the plate, and their fingers on the top half. Open and close the hand to open and close the mouth.



Mitten or Sock Puppets

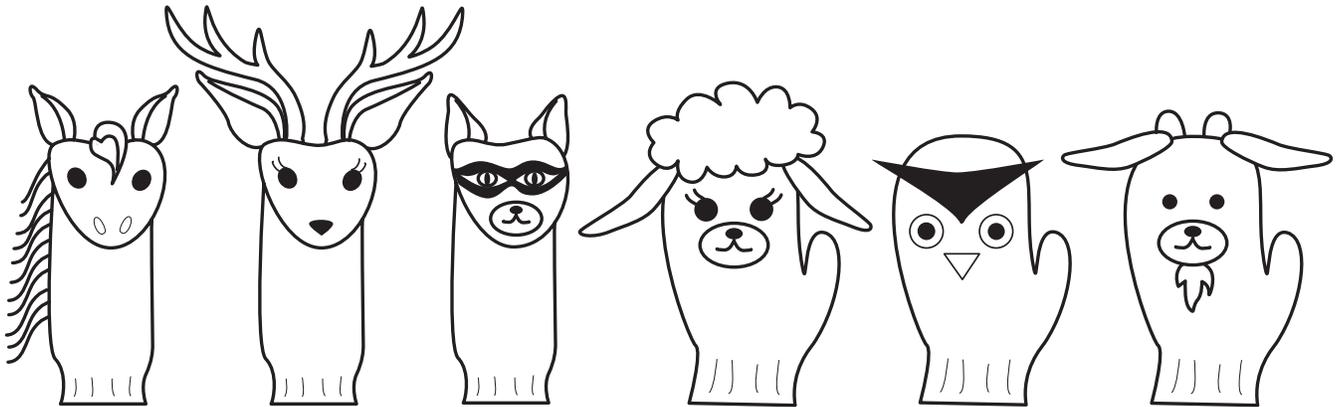
Materials:

-  worn-out socks or mittens
-  felt or material scraps
-  construction paper scraps
-  yarn scraps
-  scissors
-  glue
-  buttons
-  needle and thread



Procedure:

Using scraps of paper, felt, and yarn, glue or sew features onto socks or mittens to make a variety of puppets.

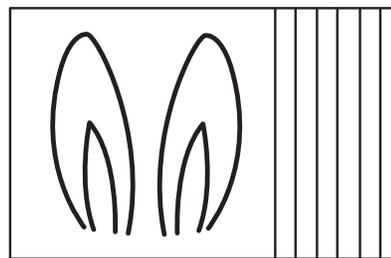


Toilet Paper Tube Puppets

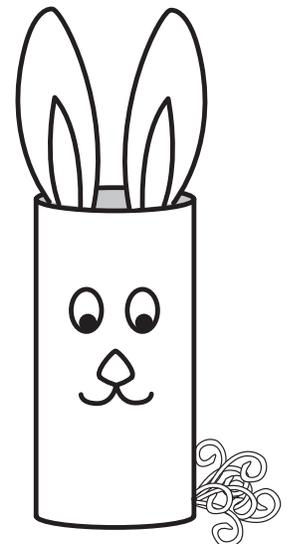
Materials:

-  toilet paper tubes
-  scraps of construction paper
-  yarn scraps
-  scissors
-  glue
-  crayons or markers
-  pipe cleaners or drinking straws

3. Children can glue a cotton ball on the lower back edge of the tube for a tail.
4. Cut strips of paper for whiskers and glue them in place.
5. Insert fingers into the bottom of the tube to make the bunny hop.



White paper for ears and strips for tail



Recycle Bunny

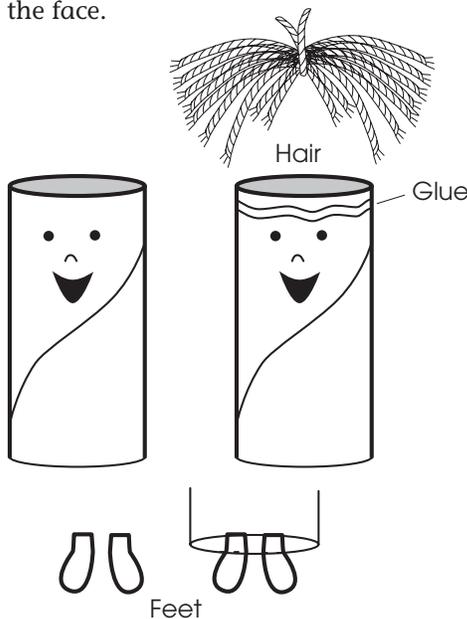
Procedure:

1. Let children use a crayon or marker to draw a rabbit face near the top of the toilet paper tube. The rest of the bunny can also be colored.
2. Help children cut two long ears from construction paper and glue them to the inside upper edge of the tube.

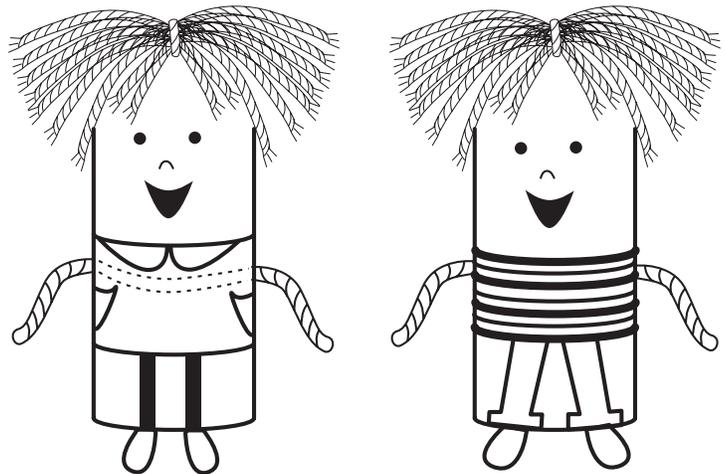
Tube Tots

Procedure:

1. Let children draw a face near the top of the tube and color in the rest of the tube using crayons or markers.
2. Help children make hair. Cut 20 pieces of yarn about five inches long. Lay pieces of yarn together on a flat surface and tie them together in the middle with another piece of yarn. Children can spread glue around the upper edge of tube. Place the yarn bundle on top of the tube and spread the yarn out around the top of the tube. Press the yarn down so that it adheres to the glue. Trim long strands away from the face.



4. To make arms, poke two small holes on either side of the tube about half way down. Insert a 5-inch long pipe cleaner or straw into one hole and out the other. Let children bend ends to form hands.
5. **Optional feet:** Cut two strips of construction paper about one and one half inches long. Round off one end of each strip. Glue the straight end of the strips inside the tube and bend the rounded ends upwards.
6. To work puppets, insert fingers into bottom of tube.



Finger Puppets

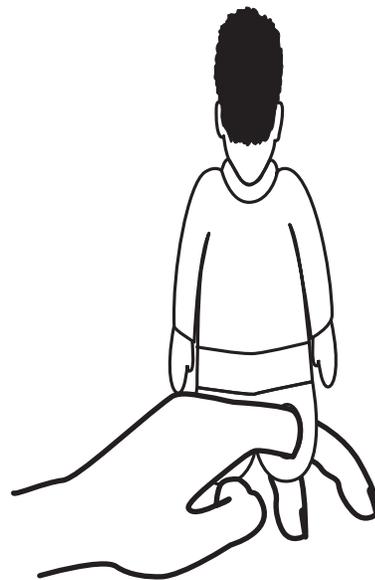
Materials:

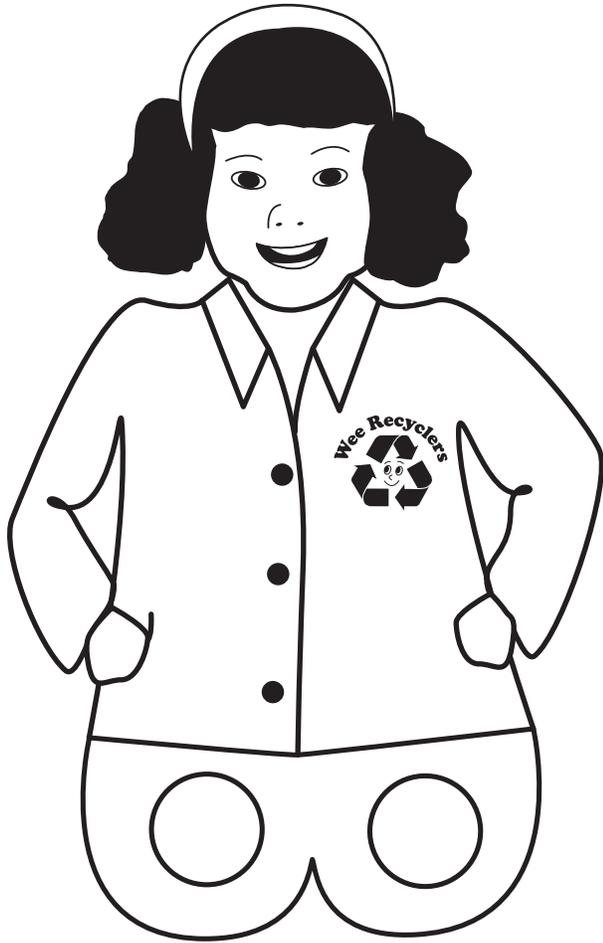
-  discarded cereal boxes or other paperboard
-  scissors (and a small manicure scissors)
-  crayons or markers

Wee Recycler

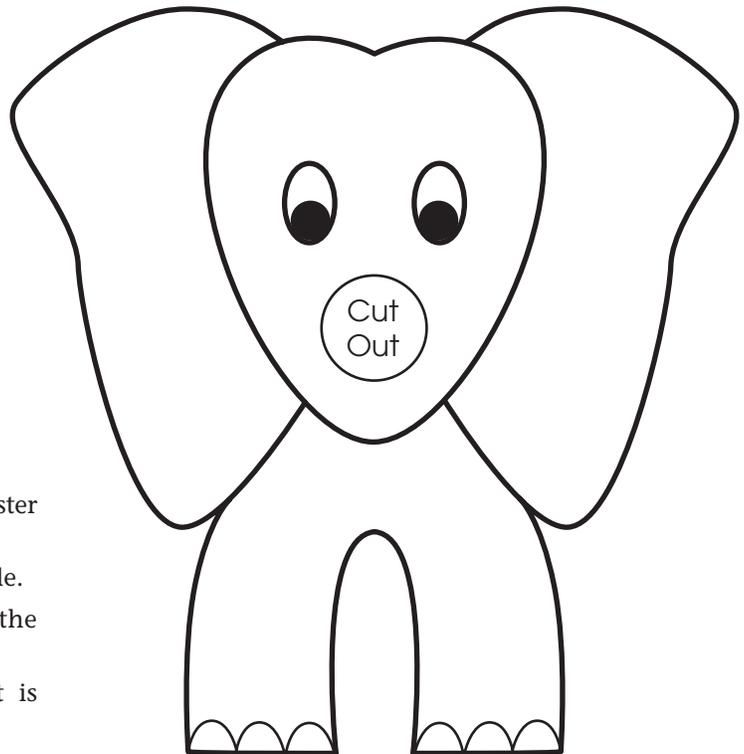
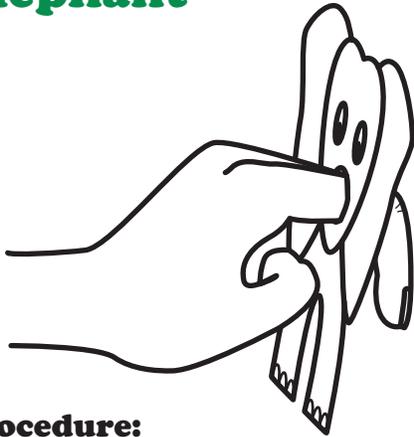
Procedure:

1. Trace the Wee Recycler pattern onto a piece of poster board and cut it out.
2. Use manicure scissors to cut out finger holes.
3. Use crayons or markers to color face, hair and clothes.
4. Fingers form legs when the puppet is operated.





Elephant



Procedure:

1. Trace the elephant pattern onto a piece of poster board and cut it out.
2. Use a manicure scissors to cut out the trunk hole.
3. Use crayons to draw a face and to color the elephant.
4. A finger forms the trunk when the puppet is operated.

Envelope Puppets

Materials:

-  used envelopes (from junk mail)
-  crayons or markers
-  scraps of paper or paperboard
-  paper plates
-  pom-pom

Procedure:

1. To make the head, put flap of envelope inside and slide hand into corners of envelope.
2. To form mouth, "bite" your other hand with the envelope.
3. Let children draw a face onto the top of the envelope using crayons or markers.
4. Attach a paper plate to the bottom of the envelope for a body.
5. Help children cut out arms, legs, wings, ears or a tail from paper or paperboard. Glue them to the paper plate and envelope.

