

Make Your Own Santa Shadow Puppet!



For this activity you will need

Thin black card (***) not paper - it will be too floppy***)

Light coloured pencils (white, pale pink, pale blue, yellow etc) to draw your shadow puppet on the black card

Thin sticks - barbecue skewers or thin garden canes are good (you can usually get these quite cheaply in pound shops).
Get a grownup to cut off and tape over the pointy ends so you don't hurt yourself.

Sticky tape

Scissors ****always take care using scissors****

A large piece of thin white fabric (an old sheet would be perfect) which you can hang up and perform behind. This is your shadow screen.

A light source, such as a desk lamp that you can angle and pose the light just where you want it. Or using a support to keep it stable, use the torch function on a mobile phone

A friendly grownup to help with cutting out where needed, and to set up your shadow screen



I've made a Santa template for you to use (see below), but it's much more fun, and more "you" to make your own design for your Santa Claus puppet.

How To Make Your Shadow Puppet

1. Draw your puppet character onto the card with a pale coloured pencil. You need to be able to see your design clearly
2. Cut it out carefully with scissors

*****Get an adult to do this for you if you are under the age of 8*****

*****If you need to make eye/mouth holes etc, then ask an adult to help you with this, even if you are over 8. A good way to do holes is with a hole punch if you have one*****

3. Take your bamboo stick (with the ends cut off and taped), and stick it to your puppet with a couple of pieces of sticky tape so it's nice and secure
4. And that's it, you have just made your very own Santa shadow puppet!





And now...

It's Show Time!

**** Ask your Friendly Grownup to help you set this up****

1. Hang up your big piece of white fabric securely - across a doorway works well - to make your shadow screen



2. Get your light source - a lamp or torch - and position it securely on a flat surface (a table/chest of drawers for example) behind your screen, leaving space between the light and screen for you to perform with your puppet



3. Make sure your audience is sitting comfortably, turn out the lights all except for your lamp, (obviously!) and let the show begin!

Now you've made Santa, why not make him some elves, some reindeer, toys and a sleigh and put together your own Christmas show.

Take care, have fun and learn stuff!

Cheerio and Happy Christmas!

