

Play is the key way children learn about themselves, others and the world they live in. It is essential to their learning, development, health, and physical, mental and social well-being – and it's FUN! Play provides the building blocks to be ready for school.



Puppets

Puppets entertain and engage children of all ages.

Did you know?

Taking on roles and interacting through puppet play with other children provides lots of opportunity to develop and practice language and social skills. They learn to share, negotiate, cooperate and problem solve.

Add Language

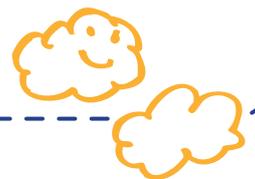
When playing with puppets, children learn the turn-taking of a conversation. Playing with puppets at playgroup gives children a chance to use their language to negotiate what the play will be about, who will have what roles and to give voice to their character.

Other development

For children with limited language, having a puppet to move can help them to connect with others. Playgroup provides lots of opportunities for this to happen. Puppets can be used to act out desired behaviour, unacceptable behaviour and consequences. This can be done in a fun way that doesn't shame any particular child or family but reinforces the playgroup rules.

Making puppets at playgroup is a great creative activity! Simply sticking or drawing faces on paper bags can be an easy way to introduce this activity and develop fine motor skills.

You could also have some ready-made puppets available for children to practice their storytelling skills. Puppets can also be used to act out favourite rhymes and stories e.g. 3 Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed; 3 Little Pigs; The 3 Bears.



- Playgroup WA has a treasure trove of play activities for babies, toddlers and 3-5 year olds, for home and playgroup. These play activities cover a balanced diet of play across sensory, movement, language and thinking skill areas.

You can find them at www.playgroupwa.com.au/playideas or visit www.facebook.com/playgroupwa