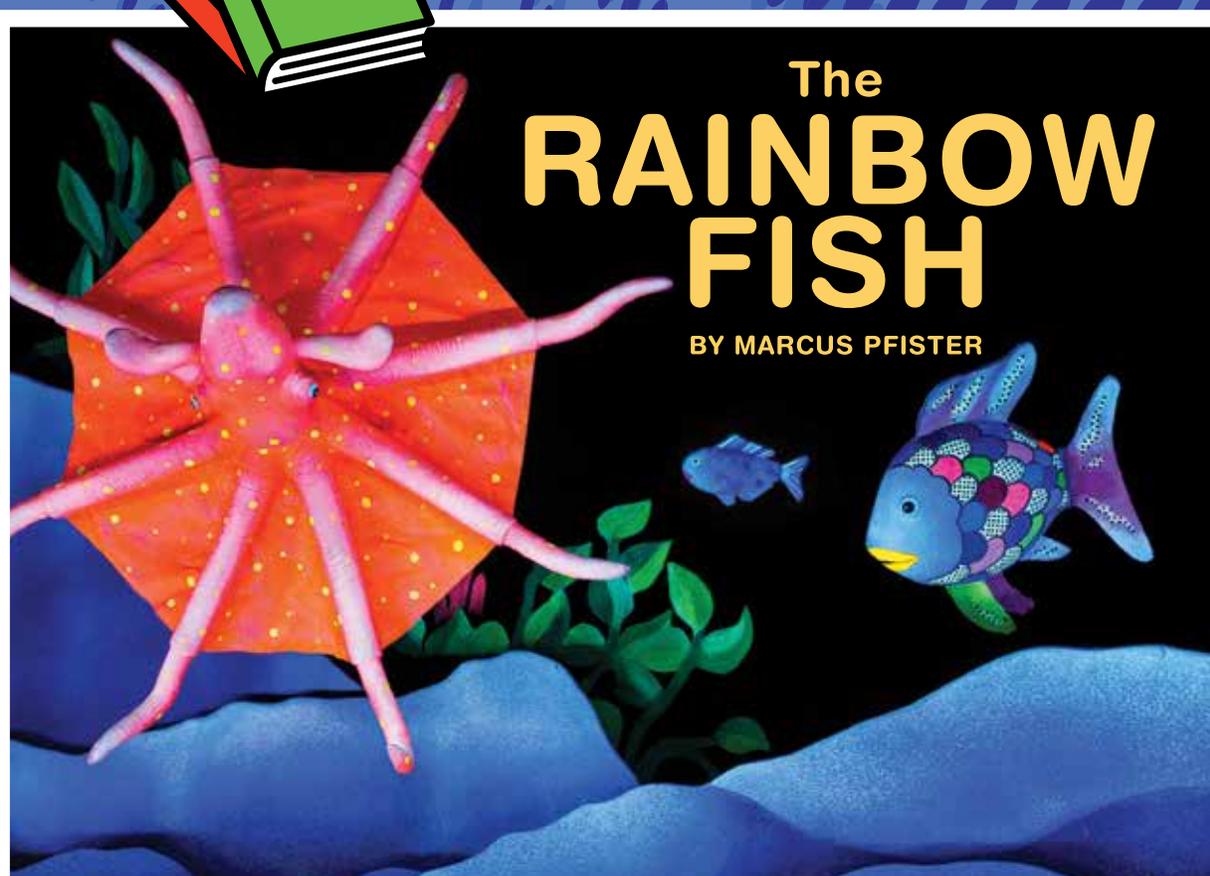


DISCOVERY SERIES

2023-2024

RESOURCE GUIDE



Stage Adaptation of Marcus Pfister's children's book series.
Directed by Jim Morrow and Music Composed by Steven Naylor.

DAYTON LIVE
Your Home for Arts,
Culture & Entertainment

Monday, Mar. 18, 2024
9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Victoria Theatre

Welcome to Dayton Live's 2023-2024 Discovery Series! We are very excited to be your education partner in providing professional arts experiences to you and your students!

The first of three tales introduce the most beautiful fish in the sea, whose scales shimmer in all the colors of the rainbow. He is admired – and resented – by the entire underwater world, until a clever octopus advises him to give each fish one of his scales. Further adventures follow as the Rainbow Fish finds the courage to explore the great unknown deep sea, discovering a new world with wonderful sights and friendly creatures of all shapes, sizes and colors who are eager to make his acquaintance. The underworld wonderland is the setting for an introduction to the concept of opposites. As a fitting finale, the story ends with the most satisfying opposite of all –give and take – as Rainbow Fish shares one of his shining scales with a friend.

The information and activities in this resource guide have been carefully crafted to help you and your students explore the many ways a live theatre experience can create learning opportunities. Grade level icons will help you determine which activities are good for students, too. And don't forget to take advantage of the local resources listed inside to extend the play-going experience and make even more curricular connections for you and your students. Thank you again and welcome!



The Education & Engagement Team

Curriculum Connections

You will find these icons listed in the resource guide next to the activities that indicate curricular connections. Teachers and parents are encouraged to adapt all the activities included in an appropriate way for your students' age and abilities.

THE RAINBOW FISH fulfills the following Ohio and National Education Standards and Benchmarks for kindergarten through fourth grade.



Learning Standards Related to *THE RAINBOW FISH*

Science: ENV.ES.1; ENV.ES.5

English/Language Arts: RL.K.3; RL.K.9; RL.1.3; RL.1.9; RL.2.1; RL.2.3; RL.2.9; RL.3; RL.3.3; RL.3.4

National Core Arts Standards: TH:Re71.PK; TH:Re71.K; TH:Re71.1; TH:Re71.2; TH:Re71.3; TH:Cn10.1.PK; TH:Cn10.1.K; TH:Cn10.1.1; TH:Cn10.1.2; TH:Cn10.1.3; TH:Cn11.1.PK; TH:Cn11.1.K; TH:Cn11.1.1; TH:Cn11.1.2; TH:Cn11.1.3; TH:Cn11.2.PK; TH:Cn11.2.K; TH:Cn11.2.1; TH:Cn11.2.2; TH:Cn11.2.3

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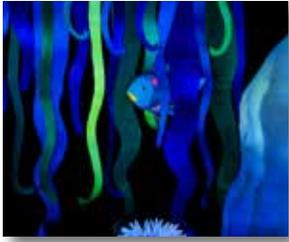
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About the Play

LANGUAGE
ARTS



THE RAINBOW FISH tells the story of the most beautiful fish in the sea, whose scales shimmer in all the colors of the rainbow. He is admired by all the underwater creatures, who invite him to come play with them. But he is not interested in joining them.

One day, a small blue fish asks for one of his scales, but the Rainbow Fish refuses to share. When he is ostracized by all the other fish, his scales begin to mean less to him with no one to admire them. Taking the advice of a clever octopus, the Rainbow Fish gives all his scales away, one by one, until he is left with only one. The more he shares, the happier he becomes. Surrounded by many fish, each with one iridescent scale, the Rainbow Fish now no longer looked different, and he at last feels at home among the other fish.

In **Rainbow Fish Discovers the Deep Sea**, Rainbow Fish's glittering scale falls off and sinks down into the deep sea. He overcomes his fear and finds the courage to go looking for the scale in the great unknown. He discovers a whole new world, filled with wonderful sights and friendly creatures of all shapes, sizes, and colors, who are eager to get to know him.

Opposites uses striking images from Rainbow Fish's underwater wonderland to introduce the concept of opposites, such as up/down, in/out, over/under, big/little, long/short. As a fitting finale, and story ends with the most satisfying opposite of all— give and take—as Rainbow Fish shares one of his glittering scales with a friend.

Audience Etiquette

Should you kick the seat in front of you? Can you laugh during the show? Please watch this video to



learn more about theatre audience etiquette before you attend a performance.

<https://youtu.be/sVLqycODsK8>

Spotlight on Marcus Pfister

Marcus Pfister was born July 30, 1960, in Bern, Switzerland. After attending the Bern School of Art, he became a graphic designer.



A **graphic designer** is a person who creates visual designs using images, **typography** (text that is readable and appealing), and color to communicate a message. He published his first picture book, **The Sleepy Owl**, in 1986. He dedicated himself exclusively to children's books, with 49 books currently to his credit. Published in 1992, *The Rainbow Fish* spawned a series of books recounting the adventures of this colorful character. Since then, the *Rainbow Fish* books have been translated from the original German into more than 50 languages and have sold 30 million copies worldwide. Marcus talks about his development as a children's book author and illustrator. "I started to write stories before I had kids, but when I had my own kids, the stories and their content started changing," he says. "Before, I always cared about the characters and illustrations and then about the story, but when I had my kids, the story became more important. The kids came home and told me stories about their day and their little problems, and these are the kind of stories you read in the *Rainbow Fish* books."

With the *Rainbow Fish* books, Marcus wanted to find a way to make *Rainbow Fish* stand out from the other fish. If colorful scales were the only thing special about *Rainbow Fish*, then all the other fish would have to be made to look very drab. He looked for something that would clearly set *Rainbow Fish* apart from the other fish in the sea—a feature that underlined how special his glittering scales were. That's when he remembered a technique he worked with when he was a graphic artist, called **hot foil stamping**. This process is done as the final step of an illustration. Marcus traces one part of the picture with a black marker and covers it with a transparent film. This part of the picture is then stamped with the holographic foil after the pages are printed and before they are bound together.

Pre-Show Conversation Starters

LANGUAGE
ARTS

ART

THE RAINBOW FISH explores themes about friendship, physical differences and courage. Have students reflect on these questions before coming to see the show:

- 1 Did you ever have something that someone else wanted? What was it? Did you share it? Why or why not?
- 2 In your opinion, what does it mean to be a good friend?

- 3 Did you ever do something you were afraid to do? What was it? How did you feel after you did it? Were you less scared?
- 4 Puppetry is one way to tell a story, what other ways can we tell stories?
- 5 Can you imagine a world without pictures? If you were the first person to create an image, what would your first drawing be?

What is a Rainbow Fish?

SCIENCE

A rainbowfish is a brightly colored sea creature with shimmering scales of many colors. They are cold-blooded animals with fins for swimming and gills for breathing. They have a backbone, which means they are **vertebrates**. They prefer tropical regions and are native to Australia, Indonesia and New Guinea. Most rainbow fish are fairly small and can grow up to eight inches long.



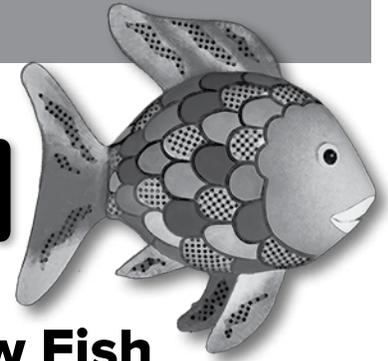
- ▶ Fish prefer to travel in groups, called **schools** (six or more fish).



- ▶ They are **omnivores**, which means that they eat both plants and animals. Insects that float on the surface of the water are their main food source.
- ▶ Some of their favorite foods include mosquito larvae, bloodworms and tiny shrimp.
- ▶ Fish communicate with one another using pheromones. **Pheromones** are a chemical they produce to get other fish within their species to respond to them.
- ▶ Changing color is something fish do if they feel sick or stressed.
- ▶ They develop brighter, more colorful scales as they grow older.

~~FUN FACTS~~ FIN FACTS!

- ▶ They hatch from eggs that look like tiny circles the size of a pin head. Typically they hatch in 18 days.



The RAINBOW FISH

Label the body parts of the Rainbow Fish

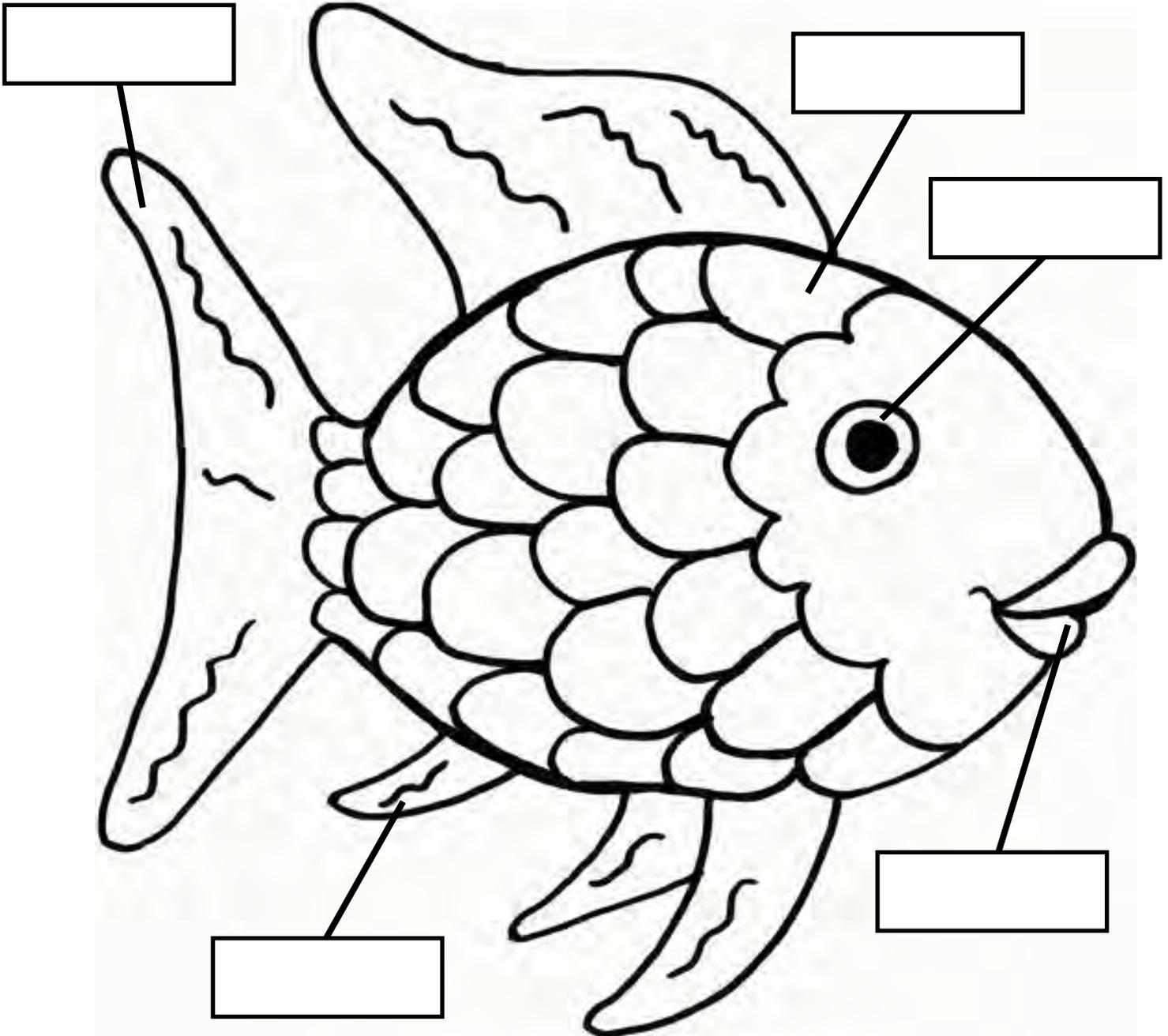
Fins

Scales

Eye

Mouth

Tail



Hot Foil Stamping

SOCIAL
STUDIES

ART

Marcus Pfister made the Rainbow Fish shimmer by using **hot foil stamping**. Foil stamping first originated in Egypt. Gold was beaten until it was very thin and then applied to papyrus paper. **Papyrus** is a tall plant that grows in shallow water and marshes. Papyrus flourishes in the Nile River in Egypt. Egyptians used part of the plant known as the **pith**, or inner part of the papyrus stalks, to create paper. Foil stamping in ancient times was reserved for royal and religious texts.

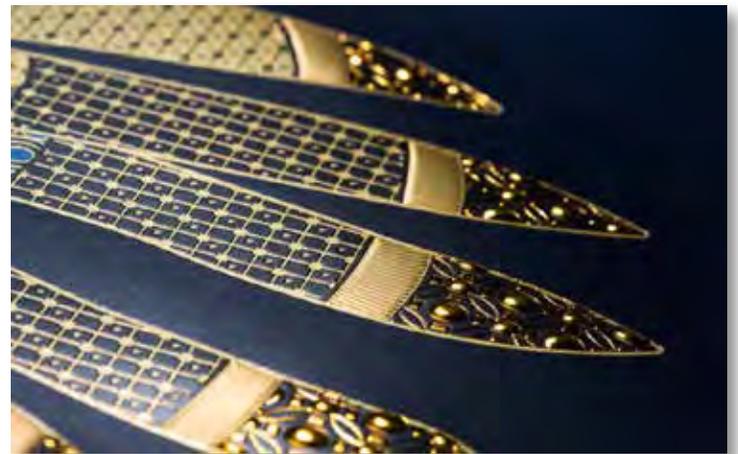
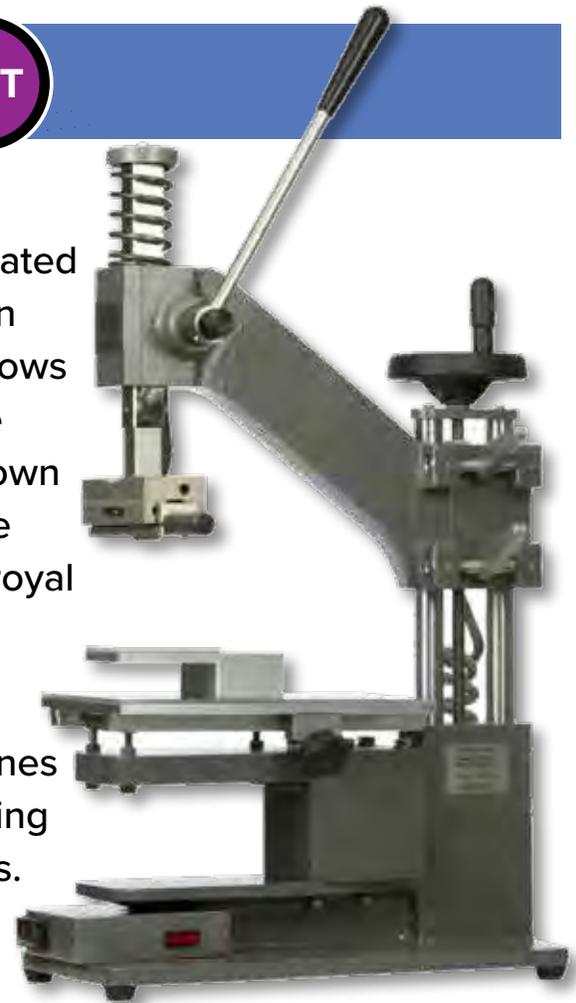
After the invention of the printing press in China and its redevelopment in the 15th century Europe by Johannes Gutenberg, the press gained a lot of popularity by making texts more accessible to the masses.

Media was made more tangible to the masses; such as newspapers, books and advertisements. With the use of the printing press and hand-set lettering that were custom engraved, foil stamp embossing became a bit more common. **Embossing** is to carve, mold or stamp on a surface or object. Foil stamping was still reserved mostly for book covers.



Ernst Oeser

In the late 1800s Berlin, bookbinder and entrepreneur **Ernst Oeser** developed hot-stamping foils. Modern day foil stamping involves heat and pressure to make its mark. In England, atomize gold was used on thin sheets of polyester film and its popularity continued into the 1950s and 1960s. When you grab a copy of *The Rainbow Fish* book, be on the lookout for those beautiful scales.



Puppetry

A puppet is a figure that is moved by a human. A puppet can be another 'human', animal or abstract object. The puppet is often used in theatrical shows. The name of the human using the puppet is called a **puppeteer**. Puppet shows seem to have existed in almost all known civilizations and in almost all time periods.



There are different types of puppets that one can make.

There are **hand or glove puppets**. These puppets have a hollow cloth body that fits over the hand, and the fingers can fit into the head and the arms to give motion. **Rod puppets** can be manipulated from below, but they are full length puppets supported by a rod running inside the body to the head. Separate rods move the hands and if needed the legs. **Marionettes or string puppets** are also full length, but they are controlled from above with threads or strings.

These puppets can have nine or more strings that allow puppets to be moved vertically and horizontally. Flat jointed figures are worked from above also. Originally, the use of flat figures were found in England toy theatres.

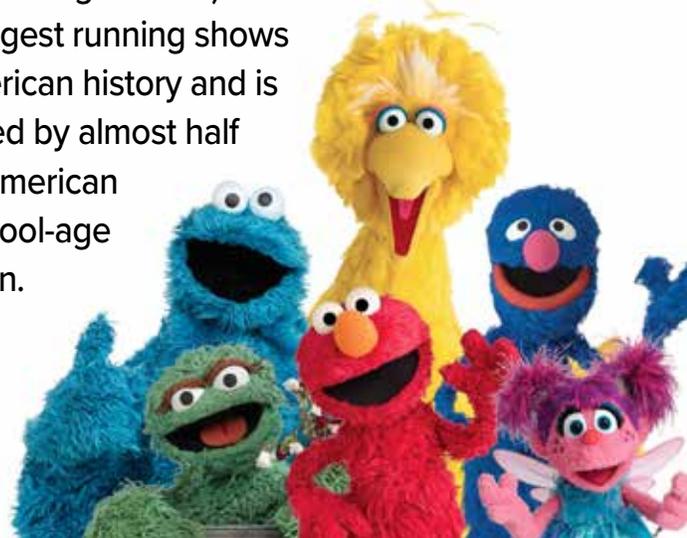


Shadow puppets are also flat figures which are seen through a translucent screen.

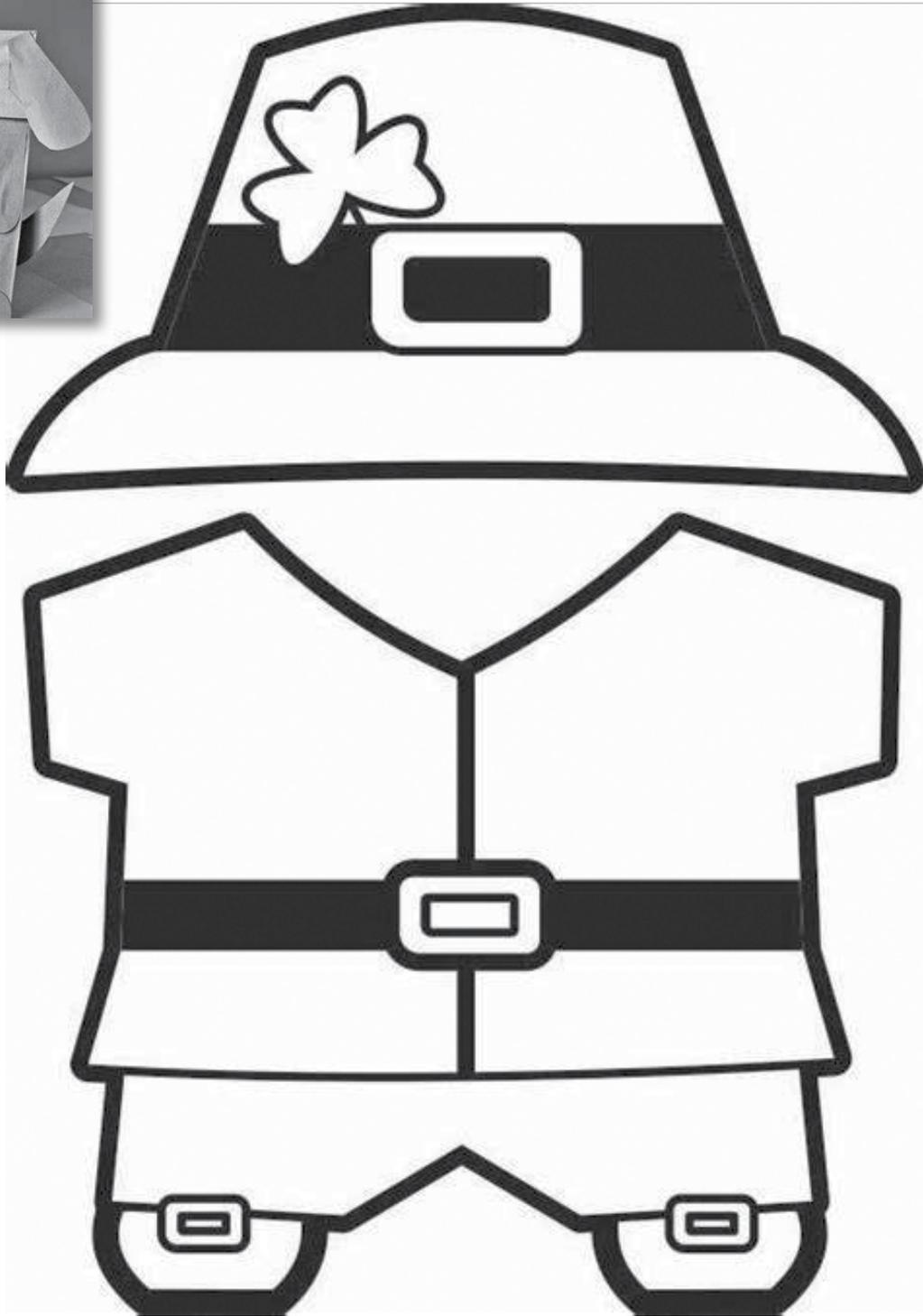
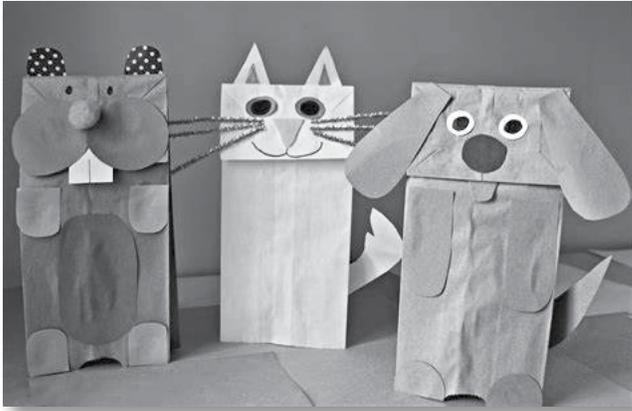


Making a puppet and deciding how to make it move is fun, but being able to personify your puppet is where the true artistry comes into play. Puppeteers call this the puppet's **impersonality**. Puppets are typically character types very similar to the stock characters of ancient Greek and Roman drama. Audiences must work harder to connect with the puppets than if they were watching a human actor.

Puppetry is not a simple form of theatre; quite the opposite. It is more complicated, can be more expensive in time and labor to create a puppet show, but once created, a puppet show can be lasting. Sesame Street, for example, first aired in 1969 on the National Educational Television Network later to be called PBS (Public Broadcasting Service). It is one of the longest running shows in American history and is watched by almost half of all American preschool-age children.



Leprechaun



Try your hand at puppet making by using a paper bag that we use to pack a lunch. What kind of creature/character would you like to make? Here are some character examples that you can cut out to attach to your puppet. Don't want to cut? Draw your character on the bag and color it in!

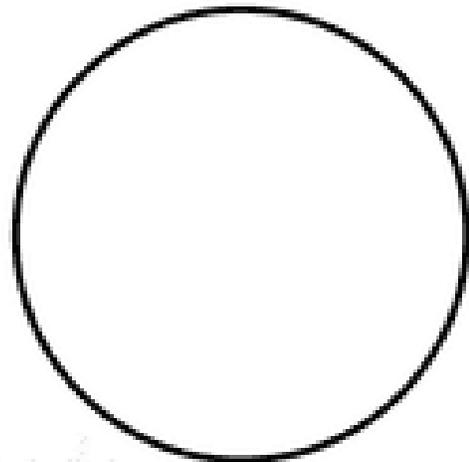
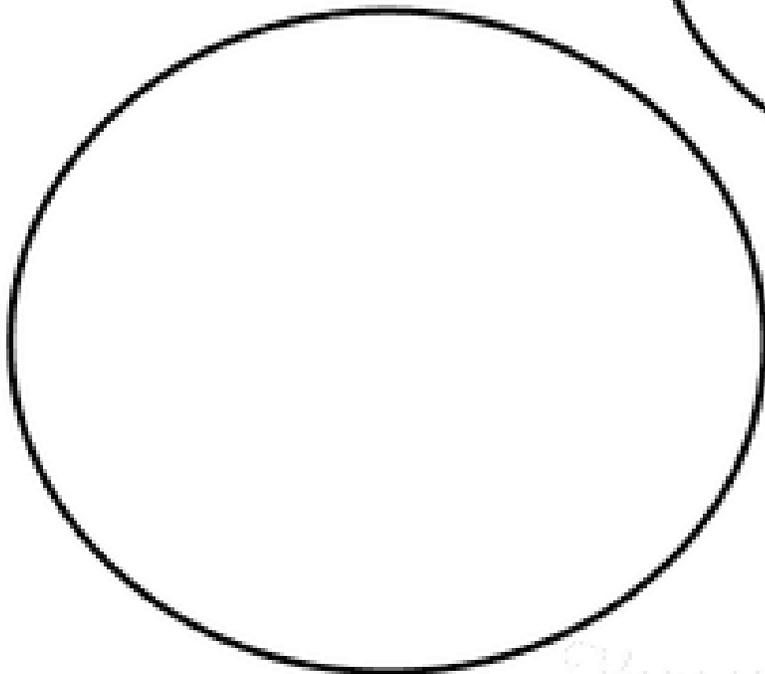
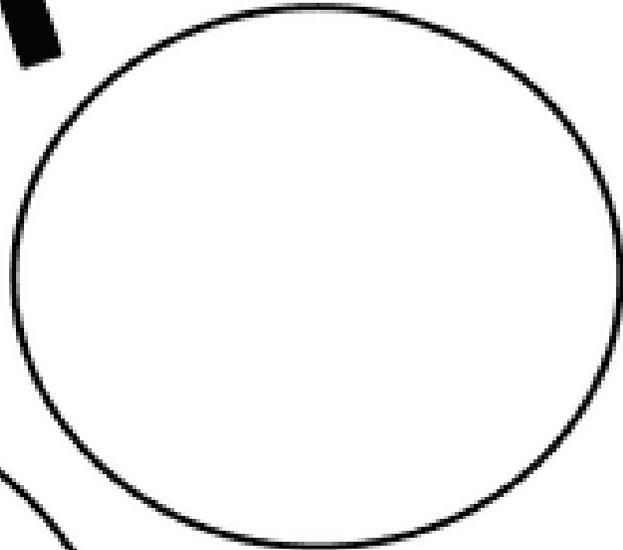
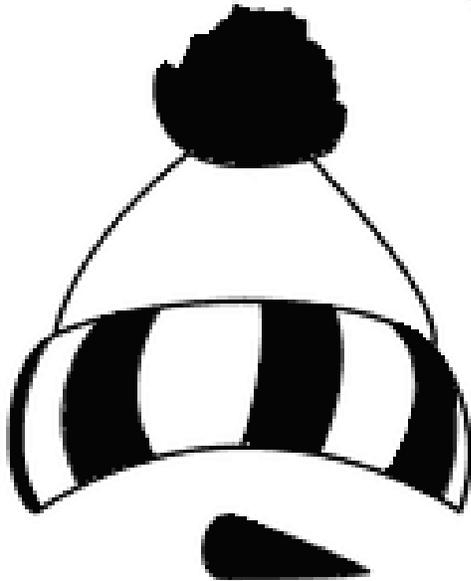
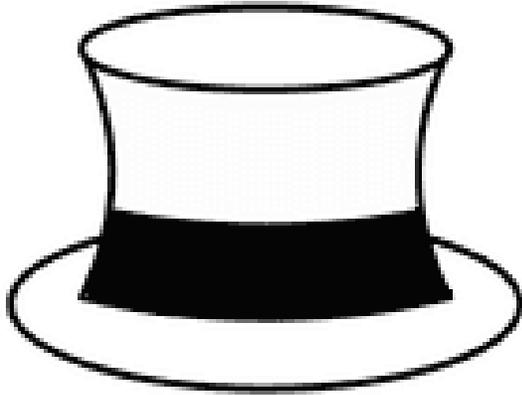
After creating your puppet, decide what kind of personality and voice it will have. Use your puppet to interact with the other puppets in your group/class!
Have fun!

For more hand puppet ideas go to

<https://www.simpleeverydaymom.com/paper-bag-puppets/>

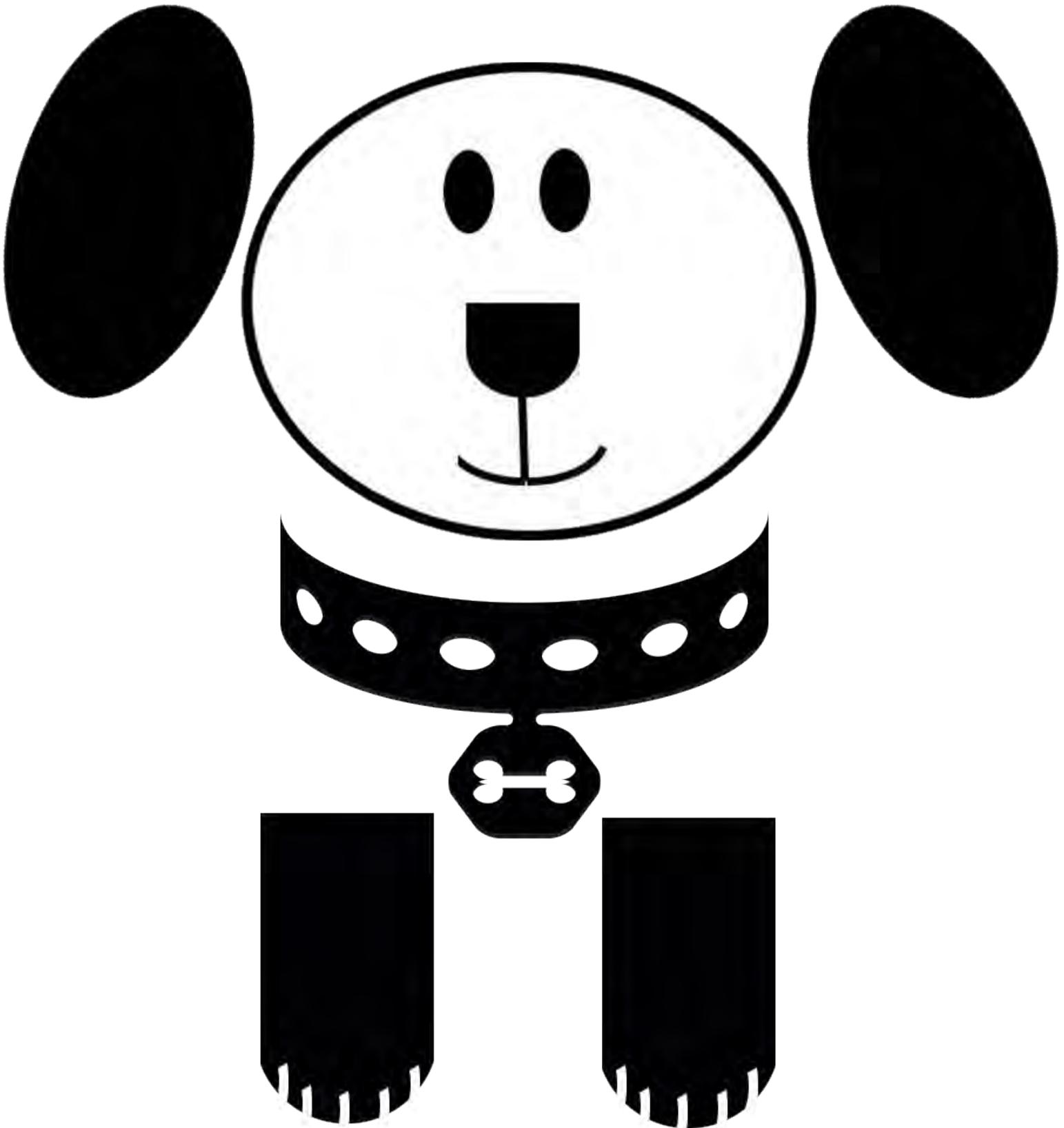


Snowman



Homemade

Puppy



Have you ever heard of the saying that ‘a picture can be worth a thousand words’? Humans can process images at a very fast speed. Seeing an image of something helps humans to understand what is being described or taught. One of the oldest drawings or images, are the red markings in a South African cave believed to be created 73,000 years ago. Creating images existed before the creation of written language.

Why are images so important?

- ▶ They connect us with the people who came before us.
- ▶ Help to express feelings when words are hard to find.
- ▶ Document or record moments in history.
- ▶ Help to remember people, places and things.
- ▶ To preserve ideas and solutions.

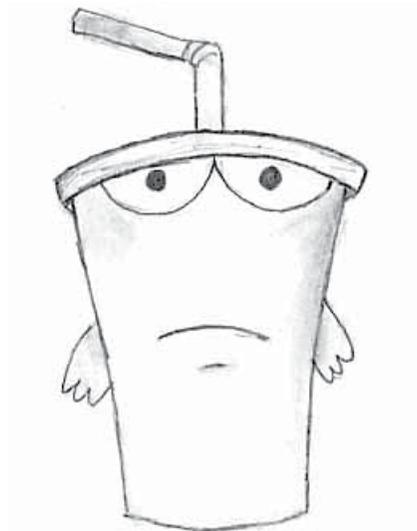
Let us test the power of drawings/images. Underneath each image, describe what emotion or thought that comes to mind. If you can't quite describe the emotion, draw an arrow up or down to indicate if it gives you a good feeling or a not so good feeling.



Stefano Pallara



Mrs. Nguyen



Sabraka

The cover of a book is the first thing we notice and can be the deciding factor of whether we would like to read the book or not. Think about your favorite story or book. Design your version of its book cover. Think about how a cover often portrays a character from the story. What part of the story would you draw inspiration from? What would make someone want to read the book? Be sure to include the title of the story in the style of font of your choosing. **Font** is a graphic representation of text that can have different sizes, shapes, colors, or designs. Here are some examples of different fonts.

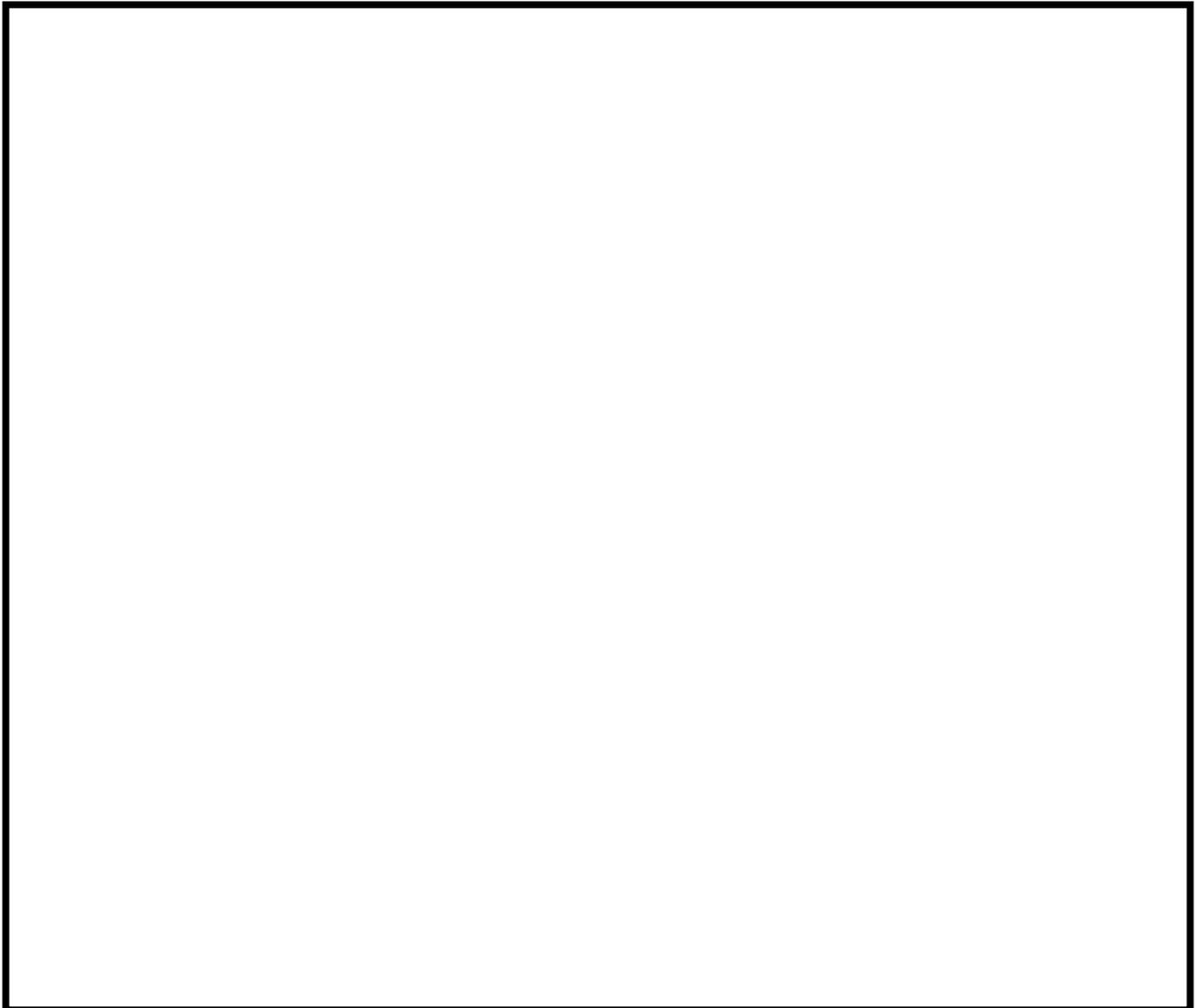
Create Your Own
Create Your Own
Create Your Own

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CREATE YOUR OWN
Create Your Own

Create Your Own
Create Your Own
Create Your Own

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CREATE YOUR OWN
Create Your Own

NAME _____



Resources for Students and Adults

Publications for Teachers and Students



11 Fantastic Children's Book and Puppet Combinations

– Author, Katie Senn. West Music, 2019.

<https://content.westmusic.com/blog-childrens-book-and-puppet/>

[blog-childrens-book-and-puppet/](https://content.westmusic.com/blog-childrens-book-and-puppet/)

How to Become a Puppeteer and Make Money in 2023

– Author, Eric Hammer. Every Way to Make Money, 2023.

<https://everywaytomakemoney.com/become-a-puppeteer/>

The Chalkboard – Teach Starter, 2024. <https://www.teachstarter.com/au/blog/>

The History of Book Covers – Author, Jacklyn Carroll. Medium, 2019. https://medium.com/@Jacklyn_Lee/the-history-of-book-covers-6f7f85670313

'Oldest known drawing' found on tiny rock in South Africa – BBC.com, 2018. <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-45501205>

Websites for Teachers and Parents



<https://artsdeep.cultureworks.org/>

: Arts Deep: Dayton Education Exploration Portal by Culture Works.

<https://www.canva.com/>: Create graphic designs with no experience required. Canva.com.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLicXr-Q4bk&t=2s>: Speedy Object Puppetry lesson for All Ages with Caroline Reck (director of Cenicienta). Glass Half Full Theatre

<https://k12tejasgallery.org/field-trips-scouts/>: Field Trips & Scout Workshops. K12 Art Gallery & Tejas.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yn_pzsdhAY&t=37s: How to Make Sock Puppets. Parents, 2012.

<https://micheelepuppets.org/diy-make-a-fish-rod-puppet/>: The Rainbow Fish! Make a Colorful Fish Rod Puppet in Just a Few Simple Steps!

<https://www.daytonlive.org/events/lion-king/>: Puppetry re-imagined. Disney's **THE LION KING** at Dayton Live.

Books for Students

The Rainbow Fish – Author, Marcus Pfister. North-South Books, 1999.

The Rainbow Fish Discovers the Deep Sea – Author, Marcus Pfister. North-South Books, 2013.

The Rainbow Fish – Opposites – Author, Marcus Pfister. North-South Books, 2005.

Graphic Design Fundamentals: An Introduction & Workbook for Beginners – Author, Kris Taft Miller. KT Design, LLC, 2022.

Puppy Love – Authors, Brick Puffinton, Sydney Hanson. Cottage Door Press, 2021.

The Drawing Book for Kids – Wendybird Press, 2017.

Ohio Resource

K12/TEJAS Gallery is a regional center for artists, aspiring artists, and art patrons to connect through art experiences, education, public outreach, collaborative projects and gallery exhibitions. Various programs offered at K12/TEJAS include summer art camps, field trips, professional exhibits, workshops, art parties, and afternoon, evening and Saturday classes.



K-12 Gallery & TEJAS studios & gallery spaces are located in the heart of downtown Dayton at 341 S. Jefferson St, Dayton, OH 45402. Check out their Field Trips & Scouts Workshops: <https://k12tejasgallery.org/field-trips-scouts/>. Call for more info: 937-461-5149.

Local Resource



Front Street is one of the largest community of artists, artisans, and small business owners in Dayton, Ohio since 1965. Tour workshops and studios belonging to woodworkers, painters, sculptors, textile artists, blown and fused glass artists and more. <https://frontstreet.art>

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DAYTON LIVE

138 North Main Street Dayton, OH 45402



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Interested in learning more about theatre?!

The Dayton Live Creative Academy offers a variety of professionally curated performing arts experiences for all ages. From classes for beginners, and summer camps for the adventurous, to Broadway after-school intensives for the curious, there are year-round activities for everyone in the family. Join us for fun, for adventure, and to develop your own creativity. This is performing arts education for **EVERYONE!**

EDUCATION AND BROADWAY PROGRAMS

- Broadway Camps and Intensives
- Broadway Master Classes
- Background on Broadway
- Bagels & Broadway

<https://www.daytonlive.org/education>

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MERMAID THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia began fifty years ago (1972) when its three founding members made it the company's mission to make the arts accessible to children in outlying communities around Atlantic Canada. Since then, the company's reach has grown exponentially with initiatives that directly promote Nova Scotia talent, provide sustainable employment opportunities for artists and technicians, increase domestic and international audience engagement, and embrace digital technology to diversify the company's creative output.

Each year, they present more than 400 performances for 200,000 spectators. To learn more visit: <https://mermaidtheatre.ca/mission-and-mandate>

