

How to make a finger puppet hare

You will need: cardboard roll, thin card (from a cereal box or similar), pencil, scissors, paint, fine nib permanent marker, scraps of white paper, paint (brown or another colour), paintbrush, sticky tape, glue stick.

Instructions:

1. Draw two hare ears on thin card and cut out.
2. Paint the cardboard roll and ears. A rich brown was used on this example. Leave to dry.
3. With some scraps of white paper, cut out two small teeth for your hare – less than a centimetre long and less than 0.5cm wide.
4. Use sticky tape to secure the ears to the top (inside) of the cardboard roll.
5. Using a fine nib permanent marker to draw on the eyes, nose, whiskers and a mouth. If you're making a hare, also colour in the tips of their ears with black. If you're making a rabbit then leave them as they are.
6. With glue, stick on the two teeth.
7. Hop along – your hare is ready to leap! To use your puppet, insert several fingers in the base of the body (cardboard roll). You can make up a play or story about your hare, and imagine its many adventures.

Fun facts: the Museum has a brown hare in its collection; it is on display in the library. The brown hare on display is a baby, which is called a leveret. The brown hare is recognizable by its black-tipped ears. It can also run really fast, about 45 miles per hour, which is useful for evading predators.

