

# How to make a finger puppet hippo

**You will need:** cardboard roll, thin card (from a cereal box or similar), pencil, scissors, paint, paintbrush, fine nib permanent marker (black), glue stick, sticky tape.

## Instructions:

1. On the thin card, draw and cut out two small circles (eyes), two small rectangles (teeth) and two ears.
2. Paint the cardboard roll and ears in a medium grey. Leave to dry.
3. Paint on the nose of the hippo using a light grey. Leave to dry.
4. Use the permanent marker to add details to the eyes, nose and ears.
5. With sticky tape, secure the ears to the top of the cardboard roll.
6. Glue on the eyes and teeth.
7. Draw on the front feet and hooves with a permanent marker. You can use white paint to highlight the hooves. Leave to dry.
8. Your hippo is ready! To use as a puppet, insert several fingers into the base of the cardboard roll.

**Fun facts:** the Museum has on display in the permanent exhibition, *Lives and Landscapes*, some fossilised hippo bones. A hippo is a hoofed mammal that scientists think is more closely related to whales and dolphins than other hoofed mammals. It spends most of its time in the water during the day, but comes to land at night to feed (mainly on grass).

