



Make a finger puppet bear

This craft was inspired by this tiny red/brown teddy bear (pictured, left) that is a toy for a doll's house.

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

Instructions:

1. On the thin card, draw and cut out two ears, eyes and four paws. Make each ear longer than it needs to be to make it easier to attach to the bear later.
2. Paint the cardboard roll, ears and paws. Leave to dry.
3. Choose a lighter colour and paint the bear's face on the cardboard roll, and details on the ears and paws. Leave to dry.
4. With the fine nib permanent marker (black), add a pupil to each eye. Glue the eyes onto the cardboard roll. Leave to dry.
5. Draw the nose and mouth of your bear with the fine nib permanent marker.
6. Attach the ears and paws to the cardboard roll using glue. Leave to dry.
7. Your bear is now ready to roam! To use as a finger puppet, insert several fingers into the base of the cardboard roll.



Fun facts: The Oxford English dictionary dates the first use of the term 'teddy bear' in 1906.

But, in 1902, German company Steiff made the first jointed toy bear with moveable arms and legs.

And, believe it or not, 'bear hugs' predate teddy bears by 60 years as this term was first recorded in 1846!