

Make Mr. Tickle

This craft is inspired by the colour orange and the Mr Men and Little Miss stories by Roger Hargreaves. Mr. Tickle is the first story in the series and was written in answer to a question by the author's son who asked what a tickle would look like.

You will need: a small 18cm diameter paper plate (or thin card from a cereal box or similar and a tea or side plate), pencil, scissors, paint, paintbrush, thin card from a cereal box (for the arms, legs/feet, hat and eyes), felt tip pen or fine nib permanent marker (black), glue stick or PVA glue, sticky tape, 20-30cm ribbon/string/thin elastic (optional).

Instructions:

1. Get a small paper plate. If you don't have a paper plate, use a large piece of thin card (from a cereal box or similar) and a tea or side plate. Draw around the plate, cut out the circle.
2. With another large piece of thin card (from a cereal box or similar), fold in half and draw a wiggly arm and hand. Cut out. You should have two arms that are joined where you folded the card. See picture below (left).



3. With the remaining thin card, draw two large ovals (eyes), a hat and two legs and feet. Cut out. See picture above (right).
4. Paint the plate, arms and legs and feet in orange. Also paint the eyes in black and the hat in blue. Leave to dry.
5. Secure the arms and legs to the back of the plate using glue and sticky tape. Leave to dry.
6. Use glue to stick on the hat and eyes to the painted side of the plate. Leave to dry.
7. With a black fine nib permanent marker or a felt tip pen, draw on the smiling mouth.
8. Mr. Tickle is now complete! You can now act out his story. NB: If you wish to hang him up, add a length of string, ribbon or thin elastic to the back of the plate using sticky tape to secure it into position.

Fun facts: the story tells of Mr. Tickle who has extraordinarily long arms. He wakes up and decides it is a tickling sort of day and so he goes around town tickling people.

We have a children's book in the museum collection called 'Aunt Audrey's Nursery Stories'. It is about 100 years old and tells stories that have a message for the child and try to teach good behaviour and manners. Is this the same with Mr. Tickle's story?