

Hopping Frogs (puppet)



There are no water features at Shaw House today, but this does not mean that frogs are not seen in the grounds, making their way to a water feature elsewhere. The common frog, which can be found in this country, inspired today's fun and simple craft to make a frog puppet.

To make a frog puppet, you will need: a cardboard roll, scissors, a pencil, a ruler, paint, a paintbrush, an A4 sheet of thin white card (or two strips approximately 28cm x 3cm), two large wiggly eyes, a black felt tip pen or fine nib permanent marker, stapler and glue or glue dots.

Instructions:



1. At one end of the cardboard roll, you need to draw a shape similar to the top of a heart and then a line around the back of the roll. Cut out. The roll is the body and head of your frog.
2. From a sheet of A4 white card, draw and cut two strips, each approximately 28cm x 3cm; these are the legs of your frog. Draw and cut one end of each strip (shape of the top of a heart) into the webbed feet of your frog.
3. Paint the cardboard roll and two strips (both sides). We chose to paint our frog in green, but you could choose another colour; the common frog can also be grey, yellow and brown. Leave to dry.
4. With a black felt tip pen or permanent marker, draw a large smiling mouth on the frog's face (cardboard roll).
5. Glue the large wiggly eyes onto the frog's face at the top of the cardboard roll. If necessary, leave to dry.
6. Attach the legs (two strips) to the frog's body (cardboard roll) – you can use glue/glue dots, a stapler, or a combination. You will need to secure each leg in two places (at the top and bottom of the cardboard roll) on each side of the frog.
7. Your frog is now ready to hop, flip and flop! Insert several fingers into the base of the cardboard roll to use as a puppet.

Fun facts: The common frog, a semi-aquatic amphibian, varies in colour and is able to match its skin to its surroundings. The common frog is active at night and hibernates (sleeps) in winter in ponds, rotting leaves, logs and stones. See if you can spot some places a frog might hibernate in for winter.