

The benefits of puppets

Puppets come in many shapes and sizes and offer a lot of benefits to support children's play and holistic development. Here are some of those benefits...



Fine motor

Manipulating a puppet to fit onto the hand is a complex skill for children to learn as they become aware of their body. Once children have mastered this, transition to finger puppets to support further coordination and motor control. Controlling the puppets also builds hand strength.



Language

When you add any resources with faces it invites children to use language as they give the characters a voice. Puppets, being interactive in nature, invite discussion and using the voice to communicate through the puppets which develops communication skills.



Role play

Puppets are a great way for children to rehearse different skills as they can play through the process. Having a variety of different characters allows children to play through different ideas and emotions to support more opportunities for socio-emotional development.



Role model

Using puppets with the children we are able to intentionally share ideas and role model different situations to the children. This might be ways to talk to each other, ways to share ideas, sharing facts about the different characters.



Social skills

In the same way that puppets invite communication they also invite children to play together as their puppets communicate with each other. This is a great way for children to develop social skills through their puppets as they gain confidence in this area.