TEMPLATES FOR PUPPETS:

The main shapes

**Mouth**
Cut 1 in felt to contrast with tongue

**Arm**
Cut 2 in felt to match sock

**Mouth Inner**
Cut 1 in card
Cut in half through centre to make 2 semicircles

**Tongue**
Cut 1 in felt to contrast with mouth

The mouth and tongue templates are essential for all sock puppets.

The arm is an optional extra (not shown in the video workshop).
TEMPLATES FOR PUPPETS:

Shapes for optional ears and eyes (animal puppets)

Instructions for animal parts

Cut the ear pieces ‘A’ and ‘B’ in contrasting colours of felt.

Glue piece ‘B’ onto piece ‘A’ in the position shown.

Fold forward and press along line ‘C-D’.

Fold back along line ‘E-F’.

Glue bottom edge onto sock puppet head above goggle eyes or cat’s eyes.
Tools and materials needed:
Sock
Red and pink felt
Two 15mm goggle eyes
Knitting yarn (for hair)
Card
Craft Glue
Sharp scissors
Biro (for drawing around templates)
Stuffing (eg cotton wool)

Useful Tips
Transfer the patterns onto card, cereal boxes are ideal, to make templates which are easy to draw around and may be used many times.

The card used for inside the mouth should be stronger than cereal box card. Try packing boxes from the supermarket.

Small scissors are easier to use for cutting small shapes but they must be sharp.

Don’t use sharp scissors on paper or card.

For best results, use the craft glue sparingly, but at the same time cover surfaces thoroughly – thick glue takes longer to dry and gets messy.

Always spread the glue on the side which has stencil marks for a more professional finish.

Wind knitting yarn around a small book about 50 times to make hair (the size of the book will determine the length of the hair). Tie the loops together tightly at one end and cut through at the other.

If you wish you can stitch or glue down the heel of the sock – but it isn’t essential.

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DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING THE PUPPET

1. Trace and cut out all pattern pieces as instructed.

2. Glue the two cardboard semicircles onto the felt mouth circle. Butt the two straight edges together. There should be an even overlap of felt all the way round. The circle will now bend in the centre towards the felt side.

3. Glue the tongue onto the felt side of the mouthpiece with the straight edge on the fold line.

4. Smooth out the sock so that the heel is uppermost.

5. Glue the circle card side down close to the toe of the sock with the toe pointing towards the heel. Make sure that the felt is well glued down to the sock with no lifting edges.

6. Turn the sock over and push a small amount of stuffing into the toe of the sock. Push your hand into the sock with your fingers around the inside of the hinged mouth. The stuffing should be on top of your fingers rounding out the head. The mouth will open and close.

7. Glue the nose and eyes above the mouth to complete the face and the hair on top of the head.

8. To make arms (optional) fold the felt shape along the line shown and glue or stitch the sides together leaving the end open. Stuff them lightly to within 1cm of the end and glue them closed.

9. Glue the arms to each side of the sock approx. 2.5cm below the mouth.

10. Your puppet is now ready to perform. Happy puppeteering!