

# **Puppet Pals for the Library**

**Corcoran Puppets:** [corcoranpuppets.com](http://corcoranpuppets.com)  
[pamela@corcoranpuppets.com](mailto:pamela@corcoranpuppets.com)  
715-223-5732

## **Library assistant:**

You develop the character - the puppet is not a toy for the children to use, and only comes out when it is engaged.

You can teach the puppet how to be a good listener, or the puppet could introduce your story, or only come out after the toys have been put away...

## **Puppets for children's use:**

Before having children use puppets, teach them what the puppets can and can't do. The following is just a sample of the many types of puppets that can be used with children.

*Sock puppets:* First thing is to ask why a puppet would have a mouth that can move - the answer is "so that it can talk and sing!" Even adults need this lesson - the first thing many people (old and young) do when they put on a sock puppet, is have it bite someone.

*Traditional hand puppets:* Again, once a hand puppet gets on someone's hand, they resort to grabbing or tickling someone else. Demonstrate what they CAN do before distributing them. Hand puppets can jump, wave, pick things up with their hands, clap, bow, run, hop.....

*Rod puppets:* Rod puppets can do many of the movements of hand puppets, but they can't pick things up. People need to be reminded that they are not made for waving around like flags or for hitting things.

## **References:**

A SHOW OF HANDS: Using puppets with young children, 2003,  
by Ingrid M Crepeau and M. Ann Richards  
Alas, it is out of print but there are used copies available through Amazon.

Dog's Colorful Day, A Messy Story about Colors and Counting, by Emma Dodd

Ask Mr. Bear, by Marjorie Flack (use as inspiration for your own cast of characters.)



Sock Puppet tutorial:

