

# Shadow Puppets

CREATE YOUR OWN SHADOW PUPPETS



## Shadow Puppets

There are lots of ways you can create shadow puppets. Here you will find creative ideas and activities for all the family!

## Create a Story

You can retell a story or song you know using shadow puppets or create your very own ideas!

## Join us

We offer drama classes starting at 16 months, you can find more information on our website or by contacting our Outreach team.

[outreach@watermill.org.uk](mailto:outreach@watermill.org.uk)



## Share

Record your own shadow puppet play and share it with us!

#AtHomeWithTheWatermill



## *A note for Parents & Guardians*

This pack is designed to introduce young people to the never-ending possibilities of shadow puppetry. We hope you have lots of fun together with your child.

Below is some information about how drama and role play support development as well as offering a platform to be creative, work with others and have fun.

Drama and role play are a unique way of creating a starting point for children to take as far as their imagination will let them.

The use of drama at school, nursery or at home can create opportunities that encourage children to use their imaginations to bring their stories to life. This allows the child to become an active participant, in the telling and creating of the stories, not just a spectator.

Using drama in this way can create a platform for links with the Early Years Foundation Stage. For example, drama allows opportunities for:

### **Personal Social and Emotional Development**

- Particular preferences and interests to be shown
- Delight to be shown in new experiences
- Confidence building
- Enjoyment in being with and talking to adults and other children
- Sharing opportunities with others
- Showing affection and concern for self and others

### **Communication and Language**

- Building vocabulary
- Descriptions for many story settings and characters to be experienced
- Listening to stories and recalling elements of the story.
- To question why things happen
- Responding to instructions
- Improving confidence when speaking to others
- The use of language to communicate with others
- The use of language to express feelings
- The opportunity to repeat words or phrases from familiar stories

# *A note for Parents & Guardians*

**NOW YOU ARE READY TO  
CREATE YOUR OWN PLAY**

## **Literacy**

- Listen to and join in with stories

## **Mathematics**

- To explore numbers and number language
- Recognising groups of 1,2 and 3 objects
- Making comparisons
- Exploring size and shape language

## **Understanding the World**

- To use others as sources of information
- To discover and show interest in how things happen
- To describe and talk about what the child has seen and did
- To recognise and recall a sequence of events

## **Physical Development**

- To respond to rhythm, music and stories by means of movement and gesture

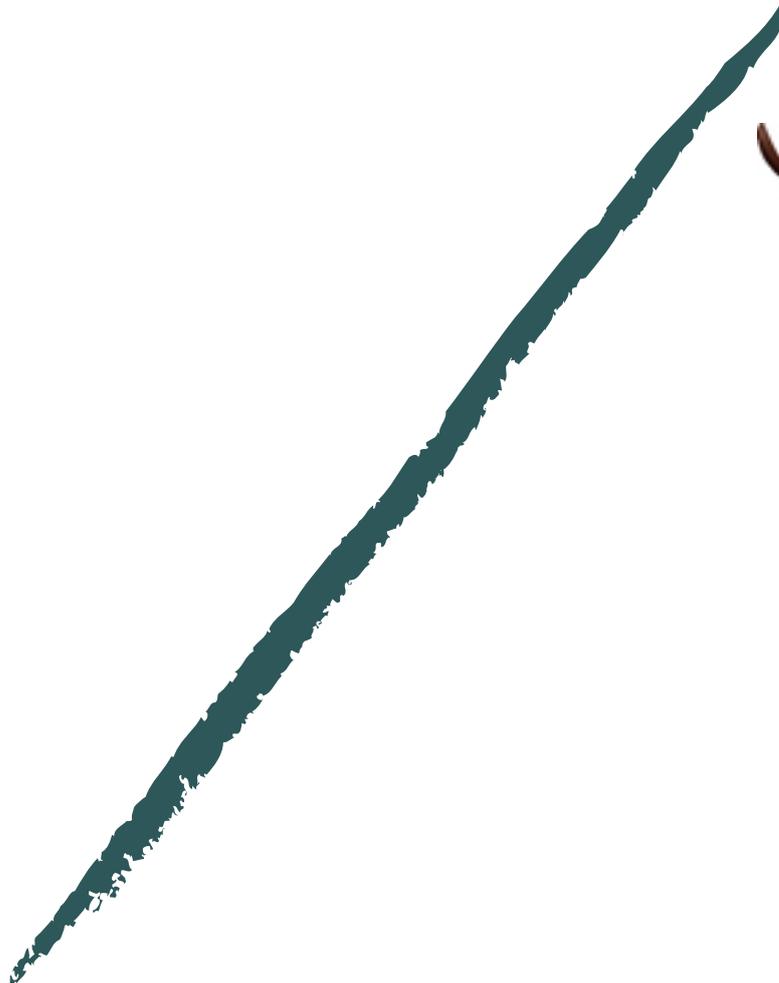
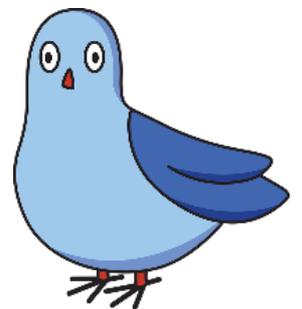
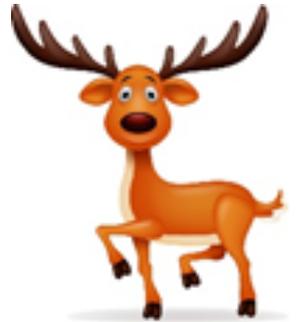
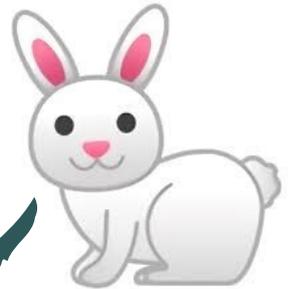
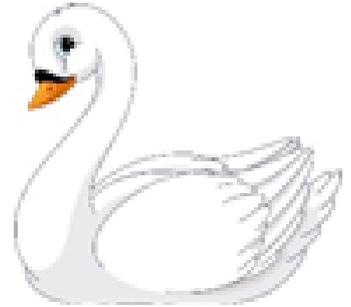
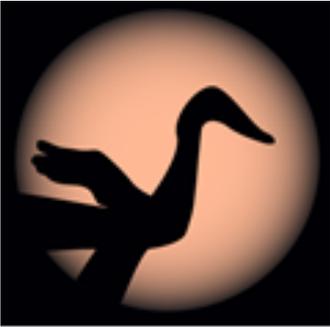
## **Expressive Arts and Design**

- Make sense of what they hear, see, smell, feel and touch
- To begin to use representation as a form of communication

*We hope you enjoy this time to play and tell  
stories together*

# Hand Shadow Puppetry

CAN YOU MATCH THESE SHADOW ANIMALS WITH THE RIGHT PICTURE?



CAN YOU MATCH THESE  
SHADOW PUPPETS WITH THE  
RIGHT LABELS?



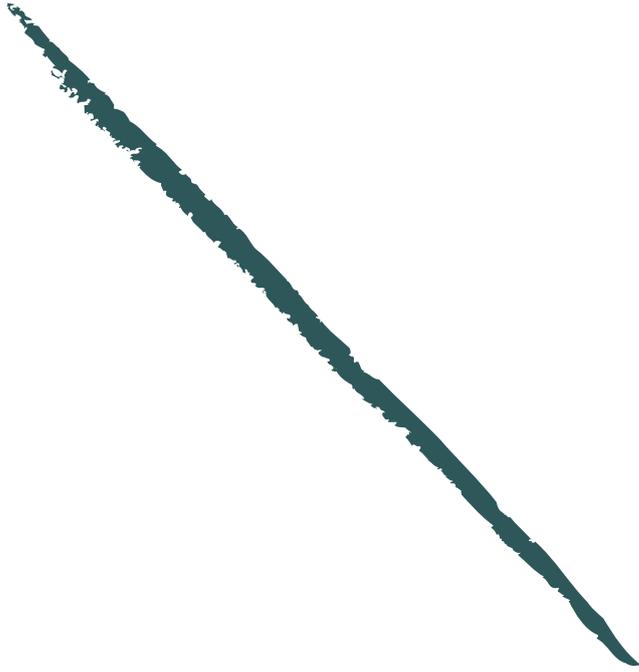
Bird

Deer

Swan

Snail

Rabbit



## Have a go yourself

### NOW YOU CAN HAVE A GO AT MAKING YOUR OWN SHADOWS



#### SNAIL

Make a fist with one hand and place it on top of the wrist of your other hand.

You will need to move your whole body so that you can make your snail slither,

Don't forget to wave your eye-stalks a little as the snail moves.



#### BIRD

Overlap your thumbs a little to give the bird a head and beak.

Make your bird fly by flapping both your hands.

Can you make it fly in a straight line?



#### CRAB

Cross your hands at the wrists.

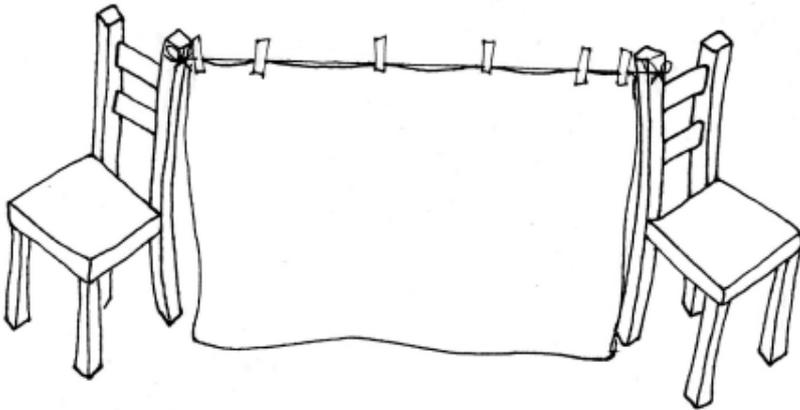
Make your crab move by shuffling it quickly sideways and moving all your fingers at once.

How quickly can your crab shuffle?

# Make your own Shadow Screen

## You will need:

- A white cotton sheet or shower curtain
- A ball of string
- Clothes pegs
- A lamp or projector



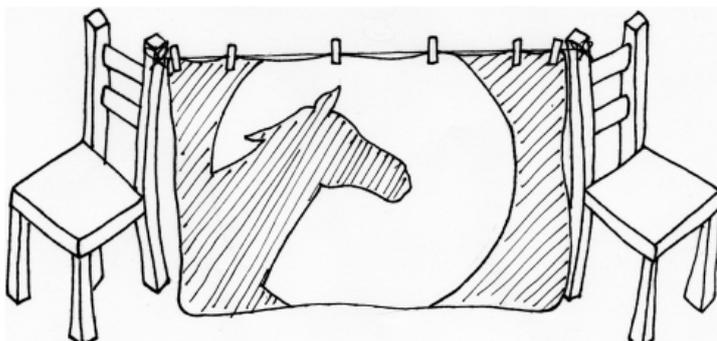
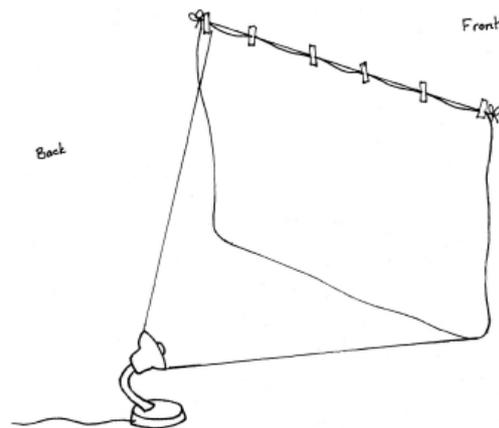
## STEP 1:

Tie the string between two walls or study objects.

Peg the sheet to the string.

## STEP 2:

Place the light, lamp or projector about one metre away from the sheet.



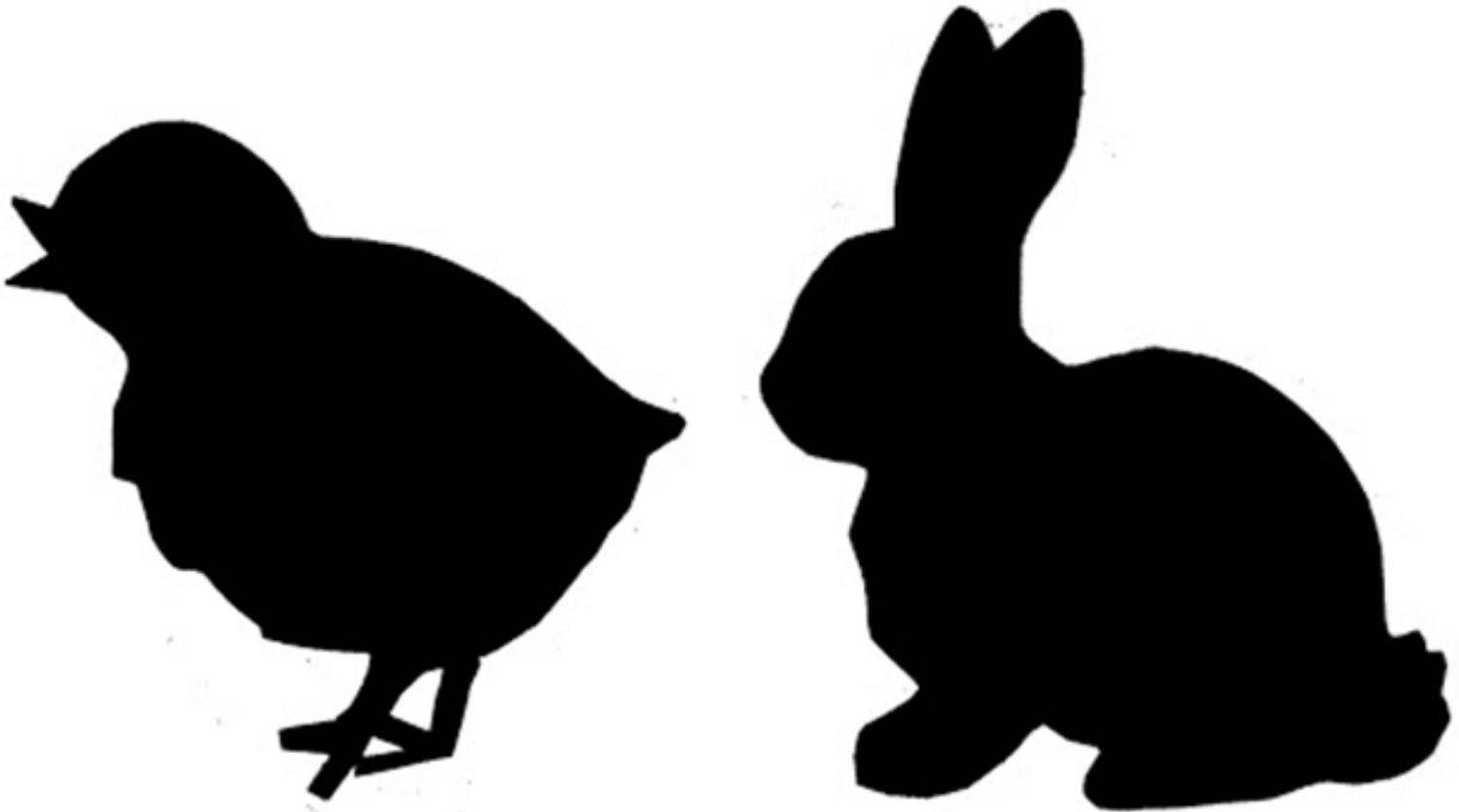
## STEP 3:

When standing in between the light source and the sheet, shadows can be created.

# *How to make a Shadow Puppet*

## HOW TO MAKE A SHADOW PUPPET

Cut out or trace the silhouettes below and attach them to a gardening stick, wooden spoon or pencil. Don't worry about details- you only need an outline for your puppet.



Why not try cutting out pictures from a magazine or trace the characters from your favourite book. Or get creative and draw your own!