

This Rod Puppet is a versatile, easy to animate puppet good for telling stories.
Make a whole character from easily found materials.

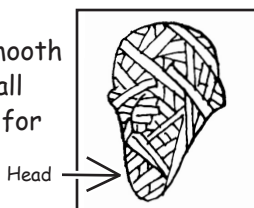
Materials Needed:

Masking tape
Newspaper
Aluminum foil
Head stick 6"
Cardboard piece 5" x 9"
Bristol board/card
String
2pcs 5"x1/2" dowel
2 bamboo skewers
White glue
Hot glue
Fabric & decor
Small weights
String

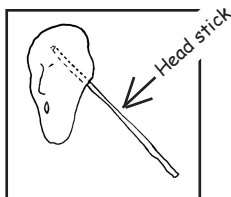
Create a story and
bring your character
to life!

1. To make the head:

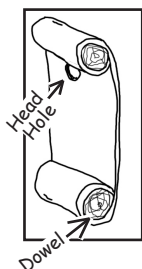
Mold a head shape from firmly pressed newspaper or foil. Cover with masking tape, or papier mache for a smooth finish. Add small pieces of card for features, as needed.



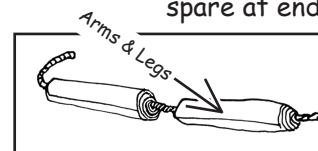
2. Make a hole in the back of the head at a slight angle, push the head stick into it & hot glue in place.



3. The body: Roll the cardboard around the top & bottom dowels to create shoulders and hips. Glue & tape in place. Cut a hole in the cardboard just below the shoulders for the head stick.



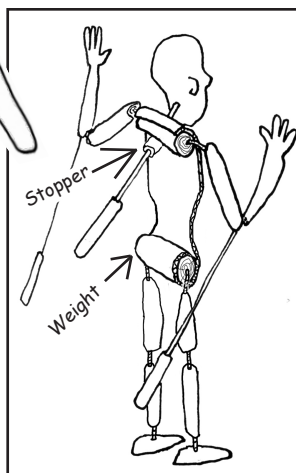
4. To make the arms and legs: Tightly roll 8 pcs 4"x12" strips of paper (a pencil may help), and tape to hold. Tape string along each pair of paper tubes leaving spare at end.



5. Cut out hands and feet from card and tape to the end of strings, trim excess. Glue or tape skewers thru the lower arms and onto the hands. The skew exits at the elbow.



6. Tape top of the string to the cardboard body at the hips and shoulders to attach the arms and legs to the body.



7. Optional: attach a weight to the bottom of the puppet torso and feet, to keep the puppet balanced and upright. Shape feet with newspaper & tape.

8. Paint face, hands & feet. Add buttons/beads for eyes, fabric for hair, etc. Costume puppet with fabric - keep it loose enough for easy movement.

9. Assemble puppet: Add a stopper on the head stick to prevent it falling out.