

Make a puppet

by Jackie Holderness & Annie Hughes

Level 2 • Beginner–Elementary

Age: Primary (6–11)

Language aims: To listen to instructions; to use language for parts of the body; to play a game with a puppet

Time: 30–35 minutes

Student grouping: Individuals, whole class

Materials: One copy of the worksheet per student; a ready-made jointed puppet and a puppet cut out but not assembled; multiple pairs of scissors; multiple hole punches; 13 tags, pieces of string or paper fasteners per student; colouring pens or pencils

Language focus: *Body, head, arm, leg, foot, hand, joint, shoulder, knee, ankle, elbow, wrist, neck, hip; bend; What's this? It's a/an ...*

Procedure

Step 1

Show the children your puppet and explain that they are going to make a jointed puppet. Show the joints on the ready-made puppet and explain that joints help parts of our bodies move, showing them what you mean. Introduce *neck, shoulder, elbow, wrist, knee* and *ankle*.

Step 2

Give each child a copy of the worksheet and tell them to cut out the parts of the puppet carefully.

Step 3

Give the children the tags or string for each joint, 13 per student. Then, with your unassembled puppet, show the children how to 'joint' the puppet. Each joint should be hole-punched and then the string or tag used to connect them. Children make their puppets.

Step 4

When all the puppets are finished, hold yours up. Move a part of the body, for example the arm, hand or foot and ask 'What's this?' The children should answer 'It's a/an ...'

Step 5

Now point to the joints and ask the class to name them.

Step 6

Tell the children to hold up their puppets and move different parts of the body as you call them out – head, leg, etc. Let the children take it in turns to call out a different part of the body.

Step 7

Now play Simon Says with the puppets. Using your puppet say 'Simon says bend your arm/leg' etc. If you say 'Simon says bend your leg,' the children should make their puppets bend a leg, but if you say only 'Bend your leg,' they shouldn't and are out if they do. The winner is the last puppet still in the game. Play the game again and let individual children call out the instructions.

Step 8

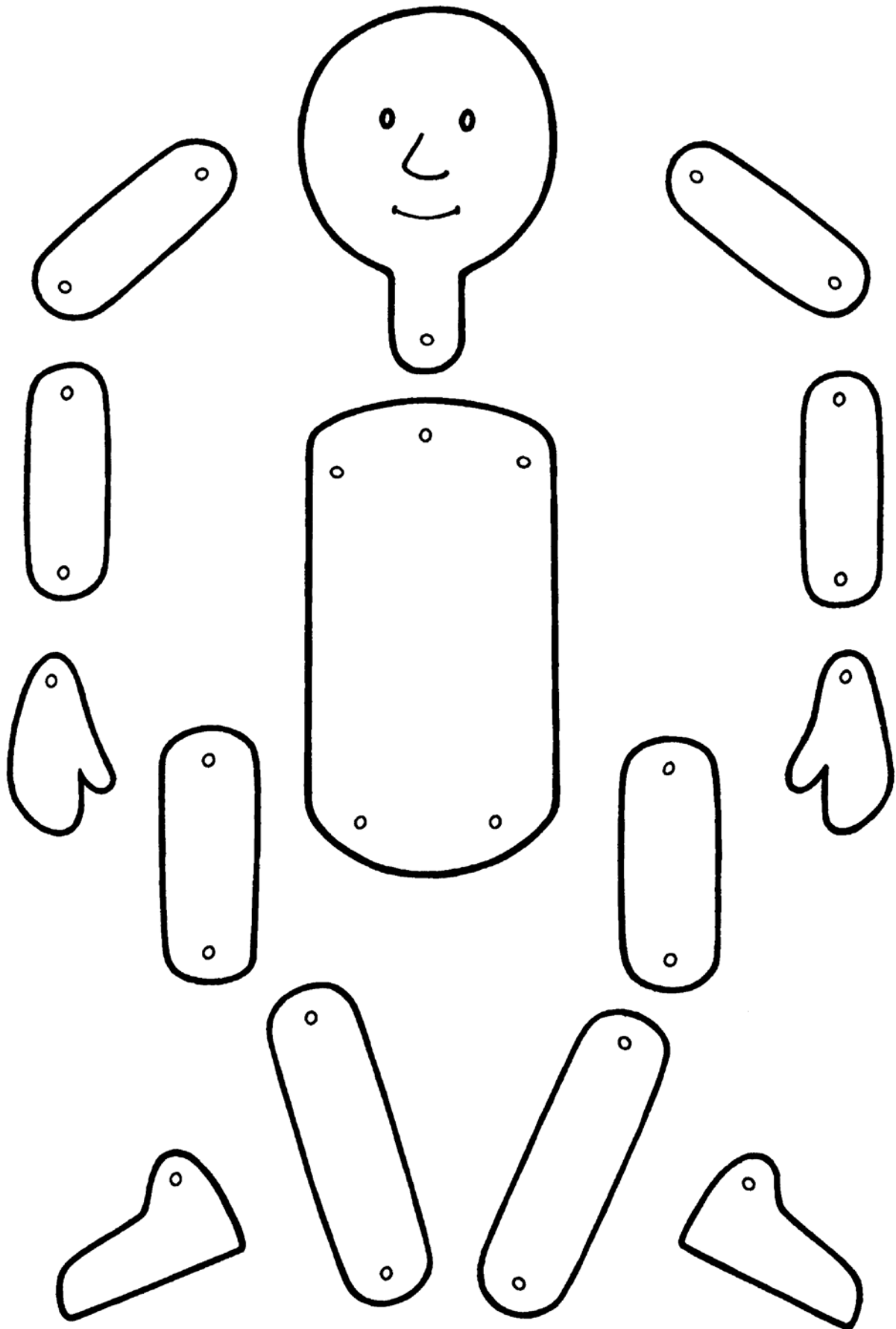
Children colour in the puppets at home or in class. The puppets can be kept in English books or folders for future use.

Follow-up activity

Play Simon Says with the class and not the puppets.

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WORKSHEET