

Wooden spoon puppets

If you're inspired to play with puppets, here's a super-easy one to make.

You'll need

Lightweight card in a range of colours –
*we suggest pink, yellow, orange
and black*

Fine ribbon – *we suggest 3mm wide satin
in blue and yellow*

Sharp scissors

Glue – eg. *Pritt Stick*

Felt tip pens and/or crayons

Hole puncher

- ① Place the baby sock over the head of the wooden spoon, and draw on features with your felt tips.
- ② Wrap the paper around the handle, and fix with sticky tape. Tie a ribbon round the 'neck'.... *and that's it!*
- ③ You can add hair with paper or wool, if you like, and a change of 'clothes' with different paper or fabric.
- ④ Holding the stick makes the puppet move, and you can practise your funny voices and 'acting' with your baby.

As your baby grows, he'll become more and more aware that the puppet is not a 'real' person, and that it's just you talking for the puppet. Toddlers who can talk will talk to the puppet directly, looking at the puppet's face and answering questions. But your baby will look at your face – where the sounds come from – when the puppet is 'talking'.

Note: while a wooden spoon is safe enough for your baby to hold and play with, the puppet's paper clothing and ribbon won't stand up to a lot of handling. Your baby is likely to tear the paper if he starts to play 'hands on' with the puppet.



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