

## Make your own story props

Use our story props activity to think about how you enhance stories for all children in your setting.

### Learning aims

- For children and adults to discuss their favourite stories and make props to help make story time an enjoyable learning experience for all children
- To support children's development in communication and language, literacy and expressive arts and design.



### Resources

A good selection of general open-ended craft items such as:

- Paper and card
- Coloured pencils, crayons, felt tips or paints
- Glue and paint
- Sponges, brushes and other printing items
- Wooden spoons, paper plates, socks, pegs, lolly sticks (to make masks and puppets)
- Sticks and natural resources.

### Activity outline

- Begin by asking the children to choose their favourite book (or use a specific book in your planning)
- Talk to the children about their favourite part in the book and the characters
- Help children to decide what they would like to make e.g. a spoon, plate or sock puppet of a fox or crocodile
- Talk to the children about their props and encourage them to re-tell/make-up stories.

### Extending the activity

Exploring books in more detail is a fabulous opportunity to link into all areas of learning and really key into the interests of the children.

- Allow the children to choose their own craft items
- Create a collage or display e.g. potions (connected to the George's Marvellous Medicine book). You could make a potion, an ingredients list and then a display with the packets and names of the things that you used. Photographs can be added to show the children's learning along with a speech bubble to record what the children have said.

## Working with babies

Use bath mitts and other props when singing to the babies and younger children. Why not involve parents in making a book or collage/display with photos of their family/home and your setting/their key person?