



How to make puppets from scraps & reused materials at home or in nature

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Puppets are an old form of art, over a 1000 years old. Ancient Greece and the Egyptian Kingdom used puppets as a form of theater for storytelling and entertainment.

I like to make puppets from things I find nature and collect in my recycle bin at home. Here are some examples of puppets I made:

First, I found all these scraps:

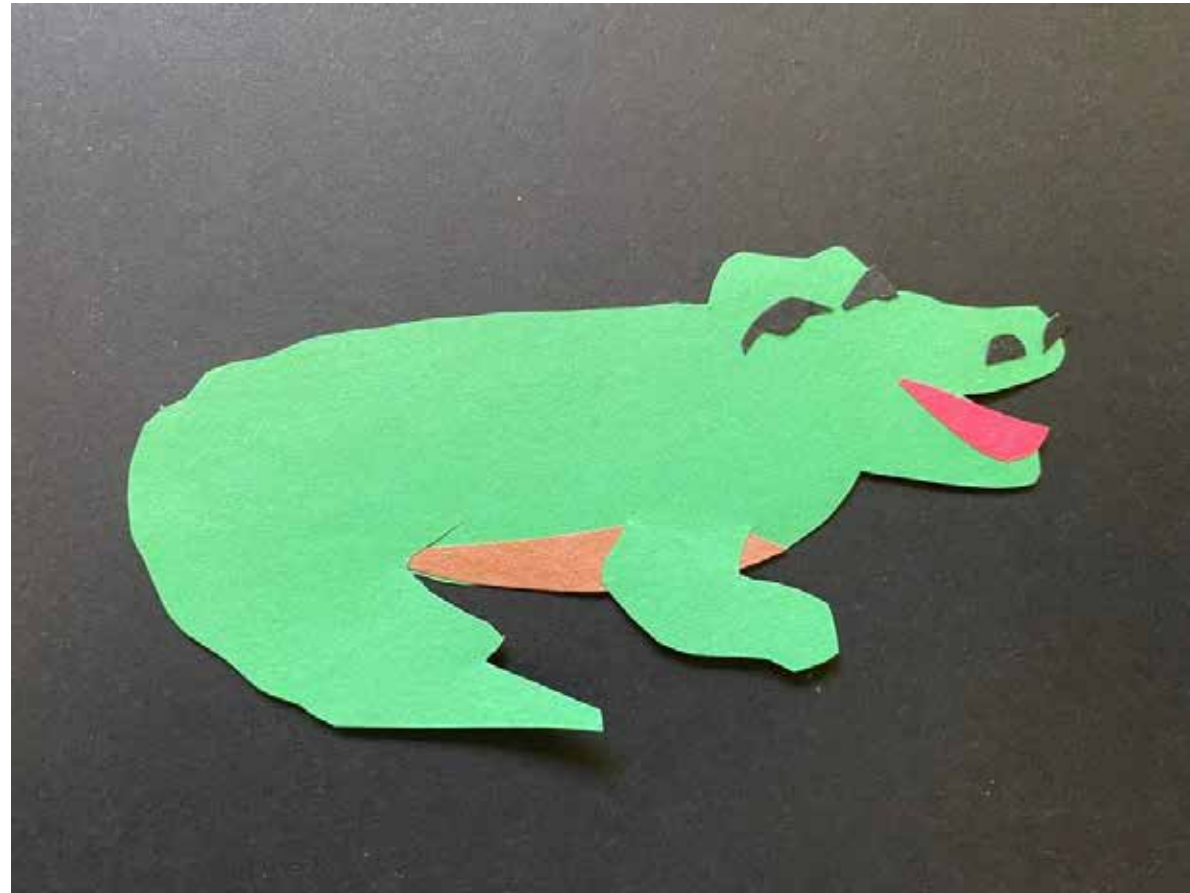
- **Cardboard**
- **Construction paper**
- **Pine cone chips & pine cone needles**
- **Sticks & hay**
- **An old paper bag**



I then used **Sharpie**, **glues** (hot glue, tape, glue stick, or multi purpose Elmer's glue), and **scissors**, to assemble these materials together into puppets. Here is what I made:

Steady puppets like these:

I cut construction paper to a shape of an alligator.



I then made more animals paper cuts, like these **flamingos**.
I attached a cardboard stick to them with tape
so I can move them around.



This is **Moses the Farmer.**

He was made using old cardboard and some found things in nature, specifically: Pine cone chips, pine needles, and hay.

I then used a **Sharpie marker** to draw a face and clothes for him.



I glued an extra piece of cardboard on the back, so I can hook my fingers and move him around.



This is the **Lady of Guadalupe**.

I was inspired to make her after I saw many murals of her in the Mission neighborhood in San Francisco.

She is made out of different cardboard pieces glued together.

I drew her face and dress for her with a black Sharpie marker.

I then broke little pieces of wood sticks to make her halo.

She also has a strip of cardboard on her back so I can hold her.



Here is **Benny the Bag**.

He is made out of a little brown paper bag.

It is very simple to make puppets such as Benny the bag.

You can use **brown paper bags**, glue paper cut eyes on them, nose and mouth, or draw directly on the bag with **markers**.



This is **Dinah the Diamond**

She is an origami puppet made out of many paper folds.

After I finished folding her, I used different color paper cuts to glue eyes, eyelashes, and lips on her face.

Here is a [video](#) on how to make **Dinah the Diamond**.



MORE FUN:

After I finished making my puppets, the most exciting part is to play with them and animate them.

- **Give them a name, a voice, and a story to tell.**

- **Sing your favorite songs** with your puppets:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fW3XlhmSQOc>

There are other many **simple and fun ways to make puppets.**

You can see how here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AC440k6iByA>