

# Puppet action | Story action

Strategy for story making through puppet play

---

**Timing**  
10 minutes

---

**Space**  
Kids should be able to see  
the sample puppet play

---

**Additional supports**  
Visit  
[TeachwithArtsConnection.org](http://TeachwithArtsConnection.org)

---

**Introduce this strategy for the first session of puppet play.**

To help kids to understand how they can use the character that they have designed and created to express their story ideas through meaningful movement.

**Before introducing this strategy**

Do a Puppet Skills & Safety Demo and have kids warm up in unison with a Guided Puppet Movement Exploration



---

## 1. Model failing

Play a *brief* puppet story for your class in which you talk about all of the things your character is doing, but do not move your puppet to show any of those actions.

---

## 2. Ask kids for advice

### Questions

- What did my character do? How did my character feel?
- How did you know? Did I tell you or did I show you with my puppet movement?
- How could I move my puppet to show what my character is doing?
- How could I move my puppet to show how my character is feeling?
- **Chart their suggestions for puppet actions. Validate and chart any vocal expression suggestions they give you as well.**

---

## 3. Model revision

Play your puppet story again using their movement and vocal expression suggestions to show your story instead of telling it.

# Puppet action | Story action

Strategy for story making through puppet play

---

## 4. Generate & Chart more ideas for actions

### Sample script

- What will the puppet characters do in your story?
- What are some ways we can move our puppets to show story action?
- I'm going to write them on this chart so that if we need ideas for actions and puppet movement while we play, we can look at this.
- If anyone gets more ideas during play, I can add them to the chart later as well

---

## 4. Challenge the kids to try it!

Post their chart of ideas each time they play and challenge them to choose puppet actions to try out in their puppet play.

---

### Resources

Check out the [Action Vocabulary Resource](#) for

- examples context sentences for verbs generated by first graders
- a wide variety of verbs organized by how they can be used in stories.