

The Hungry giant

What children should learn

Creative development – to respond to a story by making and using a puppet.

What you need

A copy of 'The Hungry Giant'; paper plates; wooden sticks or strips of strong card about 30cm long; a selection of modelling materials eg, paper plates, bottle tops, wool, string, gummed paper, shiny paper, tissue paper, scraps of fabric; Masking tape and glue.

Activity

Read the story of 'The Hungry Giant' to the children. Before they begin to work at making their 'giant' puppets, spend some time talking about what sort of character the giant is, encouraging the children to think about what sort of expression he might have on his face. Allow them to select their materials to build up a picture of the giant's face on their paper plate. You can provide support by talking with them about their choices and how they plan to use the materials. Finally they will need help to fix the wooden stick securely to the plate to make a handle to hold their puppet by.

Extension

The children could work with a partner and using their puppet pretend to be 'The Hungry giant' (this could initially be an adult but as the children gain confidence they may be able to work with another child). Provide the children with a box of simple props and the book and they will be able to re-enact the story.

Talk about

The story provides a useful starting point for a discussion on 'kind and unkind' behaviour. The children could be encouraged to think of nicer ways that the giant could ask the people in the story to help him find food.