

Why not try  
this at home..?

## Tips and ideas to help you develop your toddler's communication skills



Cut me out and colour me in.  
Put your fingers through the  
holes and look, I've got legs!



### Use puppets in April

Use toy puppets or make one with your child. You could use a sock or a paper bag and encourage your child to decorate it to give it eyes and a mouth. You could give it a name too.

You can use a puppet in lots of ways. Try using it to tell a story (you can use it with a book if you like), your child can say "hello" and "goodbye" to the puppet or they can pretend to feed it.

Using puppets together encourages your child to interact and talk. Sometimes children respond differently to a puppet and this helps them to be more confident speakers.

### TIPS



- Cut off the top of a carrot, put it in a saucer of water and watch it grow. Each day, talk about the changes that are happening.
- To help your child learn sequencing words such as first, next and last, talk about the order they put their clothes on, while they get dressed.
- Make the noises of farm animals, such as moo, baa, quack, oink and neigh. By doing this your child is tuning into sounds which helps with their language development.

For more ideas and to find the other activity sheets in this series, go to  
[www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning)