

## READING BOOKS WITH PUPPETS

A simple hand puppet can help bring children together for your story time. It can be an animal or person, or any character that wears or carries an object that relates to the story. It can be the same puppet every time.

The puppet can help hold the book and turn the pages. It can encourage the younger children to listen quietly and can help hold their attention.

The puppet can greet the children as they come to sit next to you for story time. The puppet can make eager sounds "Oooh, goody," to begin the story. The puppet can clap with joy at the book selection, help hold the book and turn the pages, and even point to important pictures and words.

The puppet might point to a new or difficult word for the reader to explain. It is the *puppet* that needs help instead of the child. This creates a comfortable atmosphere for children to ask questions.

When the book has been read, the puppet can extend a paw or hand to each child to say "Good-bye."

