



# ASTRONOMY @ HOME

## TELL A CELESTIAL STORY

There are many wonderful books that tell stories about stars, planets, or space travel. You can make shadow puppets to tell one of these stories or make up your own original tale. Then you can perform it for your family and friends.

### MATERIALS & STEPS

- Chipboard or heavy cardstock
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Popsicle sticks
- Glue or tape
- Flashlight

Decide the story you want to tell. Draw your characters, scenery, and any props on the chipboard or heavy cardstock. Cut them out with scissors and attach a popsicle stick with tape or glue.

Make the room mostly dark for best results. Ask a friend or family member to shine a flashlight at the wall. Hold your puppets between the flashlight and the wall to cast shadows and tell your story.

**Share your story and photos of your performance using #AtTheMuseums**

### THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

How are shadows created? What would happen if you made shadow puppets out of other materials like cellophane or a light paper?

Have you ever been to a live performance? What makes a good show? Do you want to use drama or comedy to tell your story, or maybe both?

If an object is close to the light source, its shadow is larger. How can you use this knowledge to change your performance?

### FUN FACT

Humans have been putting on shadow puppet shows for at least 3,000 years. Early shadow puppets in Asia were jointed and made out of leather.



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