



Home theater

What are we going to do?

Creating a toy theater with cardboard and translucent paper is a fun and educational activity.

Materials you will need:

- Cardboard box (it can be a shoebox)
- Translucent paper (such as wax paper or tracing paper)
- Colored cardstock or paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Colored pencils, markers, or paints
- Skewer sticks or straws
- Adhesive tape
- Stickers or decorations (optional)





Steps to Follow:

1. Prepare the Theater:

- **Choose the Cardboard Box:**
 - Use a cardboard box as the main structure of the theater. A shoebox works very well.
- **Cut the Stage Opening:**
 - On one of the long sides of the box, cut out a large rectangle that will be the opening for the stage. Leave a border of about 2-3 cm around it.
- **Creating the Translucent Screen:**
 - On the opposite side of the opening, cut a rectangle the size of your translucent paper. Glue the translucent paper to the inside of the box so that it completely covers the hole. This will be the "screen" where the shadows will be projected.

2. Decorating the Theater:

- **Painting and Decorating the Box:**
 - Decorate the outside of the box with paints, colored paper, or stickers. You can make it look like a real theater with curtains, lights, and decorations.
- **Add Scenic Details:**
 - Cut out details like stars, moons, or clouds from cardboard to stick inside the theater around the stage, creating a more dynamic atmosphere.





3. Create the Animal Characters:

- **Draw and Cut Out the Characters:**

- Draw several animals on colored cardboard or paper. Make sure they are slightly smaller than the opening of the stage.
- Cut out the drawings.

- **Add Sticks:**

- Attach a skewer stick or straw to the bottom of each character using tape. This will allow you to move them behind the translucent screen.

4. Carry out the work:

- **Configure the Theater:**

- Place a light source (such as a flashlight or lamp) behind the box, focused on the translucent paper.

- **Manipulating the Characters:**

- Place the figures between the light and the translucent paper. Move them using the sticks so that their shadows appear on the "curtain".

- **Telling the Story:**

- As you manipulate the characters, tell a story with them. You can write a script beforehand or improvise during the performance.





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Additional Tips:

- Create Interchangeable Backgrounds: Make different backgrounds on translucent paper and change them depending on the scene in the story.
- Add Sounds: Use sounds or music to make the work more interesting.
- Invite Friends or Family: Present your work to a small audience to make the activity more exciting.

Proposal: Make a demonstration video or demonstrate the steps live in sync with the participants.

Video of the activity (in Spanish): Teatro En Casa | La Nineta dels Ulls Foundation



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