

# Hoopoe Teaching-Stories™

## Paper Bag Puppets *The Bird's Relative*



With bag over hand,  
move the puppet's  
mouth.

**Materials you will need:** lunch-size paper bags, colored pencils, crayons, markers, water-based paint, glue, paste spreader, colored construction paper or cardstock, tape, scissors, stapler, and newsprint or plastic sheets to cover desks or tables. **Optional:** tissue paper, wrapping paper, feathers, old shopping bags, pipe cleaners, foil, ribbons, braid, beads, buttons, sequins or glitter, fabric scraps, yarn for hair, plastic eyes, etc.

1. **CUT OUT ALL PIECES:** Draw the outline and details of the pieces on white or colored cardstock paper. The Merchant's HEAD/FACE should be at least as large as the paper bag flap, and the ROBE/DRESS as wide and long as the paper bag below the flap (see the illustration below). The TURBAN should be as wide as the HEAD/FACE. Cut out the pieces around the outlines. Draw, color or paint the details of each piece. You may want to use plastic eyes, or construct eyes from cardstock. (**Suggestions for Colors:** Head/Hands = color of choice; Beard, mustache, eyebrows = brown; Turban = off-white; Robe = dark red or purple; Decor for Robe = any color or design; Dress = off-white; Shoes = brown.)

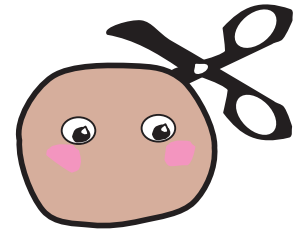
2. Once the pieces are colored and dry, glue on or draw the eyebrows, the mustache and turban in place on the FACE. Draw the eyes or paste on cutouts or plastic eyes. Draw or glue on a piece for the nose. Set aside and allow to dry. Once dry, glue the entire piece on top of the bag's flap.

3. Glue the ROBE parts to the DRESS, one ROBE side on top of the DRESS and the other under the Dress on the other side. Glue on the HANDS on the sleeves of the Robe. At this time, you may want to add decorations to the opening of the Robe parts. Use rick-rack braid, colored construction paper, pieces of fabric, etc. Glue the shoes onto the bottom of the Dress. Glue on the beard at the top of the Robe/Dress piece. Allow to dry.

4. **CONSTRUCT THE PUPPET:** Lift the flap of the bag, and glue the entire HEAD/FACE/TURBAN to the flap. Glue the entire ROBE/DRESS/BEARD to front of the bag being careful not to glue the flap closed. Let it all dry completely.

5. **FINISHING TOUCHES:** You may want to add a red tongue on top of the Beard. Add glitter to the Robe and Turban for a special effect.

For other ideas of  
puppets and objects,  
see next page.



FACE & EYES  
(color cheeks pink)



Glue on TURBAN,  
EYEBROWS, MUSTACHE  
(Draw or paste on a nose)



Glue on ROBE sides on  
to DRESS. Attach the  
HANDS and SHOES.  
Glue the BEARD at the  
top of the DRESS.



## Puppet Theater Ideas

- Place a tablecloth or sheet over a table and students sit under table and extend their puppets out from under the cloth to do their dialogues.
- Cut a rectangular window in a large cardboard box (such as an appliance box) on the front, and a “stage door” in the back. Have 1-2 students go inside box and perform their skits through the window.
- Place chairs facing each other and have students sit and perform their skits to each other. Have these puppets available in a drama center or storage bin for use whenever wanted.

**The Bird:** Draw and cut out pieces to represent the bird. Below is an idea.



### Other Characters & Objects from the Story:

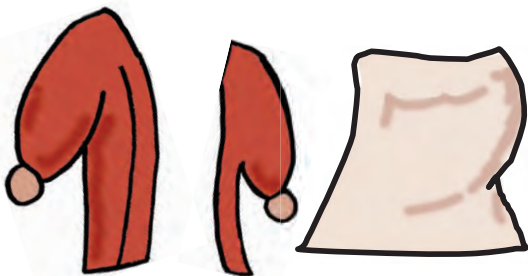
1. Using the same methods, draw pattern pieces for the BIRD in the story.
  2. Draw and cut out the GILDED CAGE, trees, and the BIRD'S RELATIVE. Tape the pieces onto the tip of pencils or craft sticks to make easy hand-held puppets and props.
- Use your imagination for further puppets. If children are to create the puppets, remember to keep it simple for them.



### Scenes from the Story:

1. Have the children design and color the MERCHANT'S Room as a mural on a roll of art paper. Tape the mural onto a wall, and have the children retell the story or perform a Puppet Theatre in front of the mural.
2. Do the same for the “jungle” where the RELATIVES live.
3. Draw and cut out a TREE where the BIRD will eventually land to escape. Tape this on the wall for the Puppet Theatre.

Allow the children use their imagination for creating murals.



Ideas for Robe & Dress parts

Allow the puppets to dry completely before use. Sometimes an extra bit of glue, tape or stapling needs to be applied for stabilization. **HAVE FUN!**



**CAUTION:** Avoid injury! Adult supervision recommended, if necessary. This project includes cutting with scissors!