

# Make (Do and Mend) with The MERL Sheep Sock Puppets

## You will need:

- Socks\* at least two, can be odd.
- Buttons, 2 x 2cm, 2 x 1cm
- Sewing thread, different colours.
- Scissors, tapestry needle/sewing needles.
- A piece of cardboard, sock size.
- Measuring tape/ruler
- Chalk or pencil for marking.

\*Wash & dry those socks before you start!.

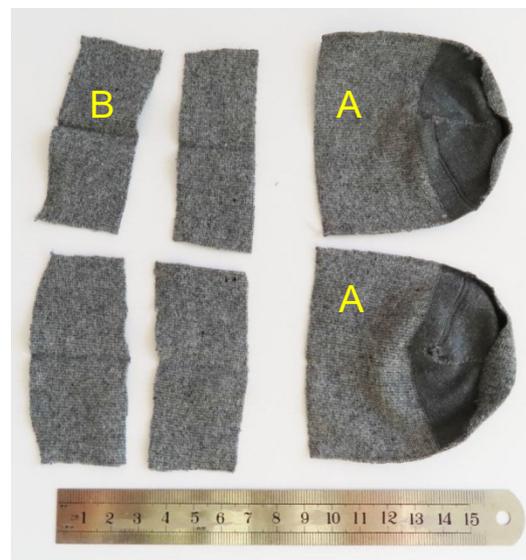
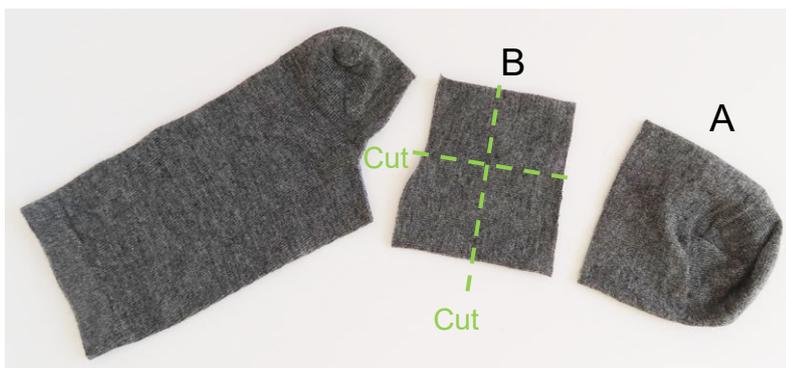


## Method to make one Sheep Sock Puppet.

1. Choose your socks – this is a good use for those old odd ones! Use one sock for the main body of the puppet, and another sock for cutting up. Select buttons for the eyes and nose.
2. Make a cardboard sewing template. Cut this out to the width of your sock by 25cm in length. Round off corners at one end.



3. Take one of the socks for cutting up.
  - A: The toe section is for the ears, split this into 2 by cutting along the curve of the toe.
  - B: The middle foot section is for the woolly fleece detail on the puppet head, cut this part into 4 sections, then open out to create 4 rectangle sections.



4. Prepare ears. First shape the ears by folding along the lines indicated for each toe section, overlapping edges at the centre. Insert cardboard template into sock for the main puppet body, as far as the sock heal.



5. Thread a needle with coloured thread and tie a knot at the end of the thread ready for stitching.  
6. Stitch on the ears. Position ears to each side of the heel of the sock, mark ear positions with a pencil or chalk. Stitch ears on with two rows of running stitch.



7. Now position the card template with the curved edge to the toe of the sock, mark button positions and stitch on the buttons for the eyes and buttons for the nose, link the two nose buttons with a running stitch.



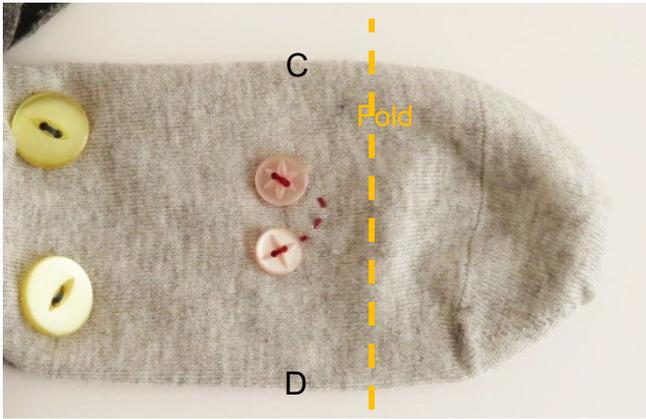
8. Woolly head detail. Reposition the card template to the heel of the sock, where you stitched on the ears. Stitch the woolly fleece detail to the head with the 4 rectangle strips. Stitch the strips on with a running stitch between the ears at the heel of the sock. Space each strip about 6mm to 1cm apart.



Snip sections into the edge of the rectangle strips to form a fringe of curly fleece. Take out the card template.



9. To create the mouth. Fold in the toe of the sock inside itself.



Catch this fold into place with a row of 3 cross stitches at C and at D of the sock as shown.



Stitch through to the inside of the mouth. Your sock sheep puppet is ready.



Now create a sock flock!



10. With the smaller scraps from the sock, have a go making mini finger puppets.

Have fun crafting.

