

How to make... a folded pig puppet

Suitable for ages 7 - 11 (KS2)

You will need:

- One A4 sheet of paper (either use coloured paper to match the character you are making or use white paper then colour it)
- Paper scraps
- Glue stick
- Scissors

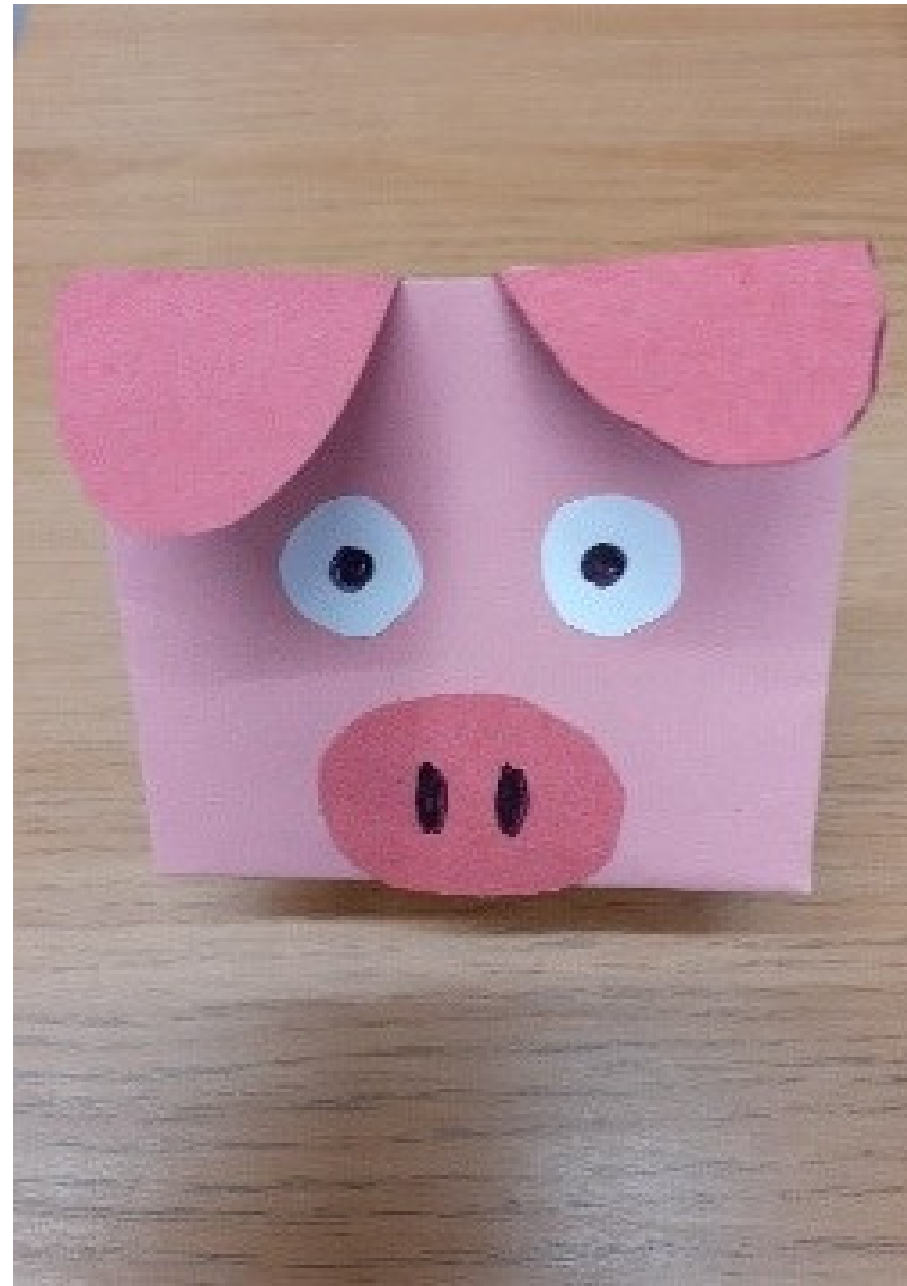


Photo: Dan Tsantilis

Inspired by our production of *The Wolves in the Walls*.

In the show, which is based on the picture book by Neil Gaiman, Lucy has a pig puppet that she is very fond of. She even ventures back inside the house to get Pig when the wolves have come out of the walls.

Folding paper to make animals is inspired by the ancient art of origami. This folded puppet make is similar to origami because you only need one sheet of paper to make the entire thing!

You could create other animals or even people characters using this method – Experiment with different types.

Instructions

Step 1: Begin by folding the A4 sheet of paper into three (length wise).

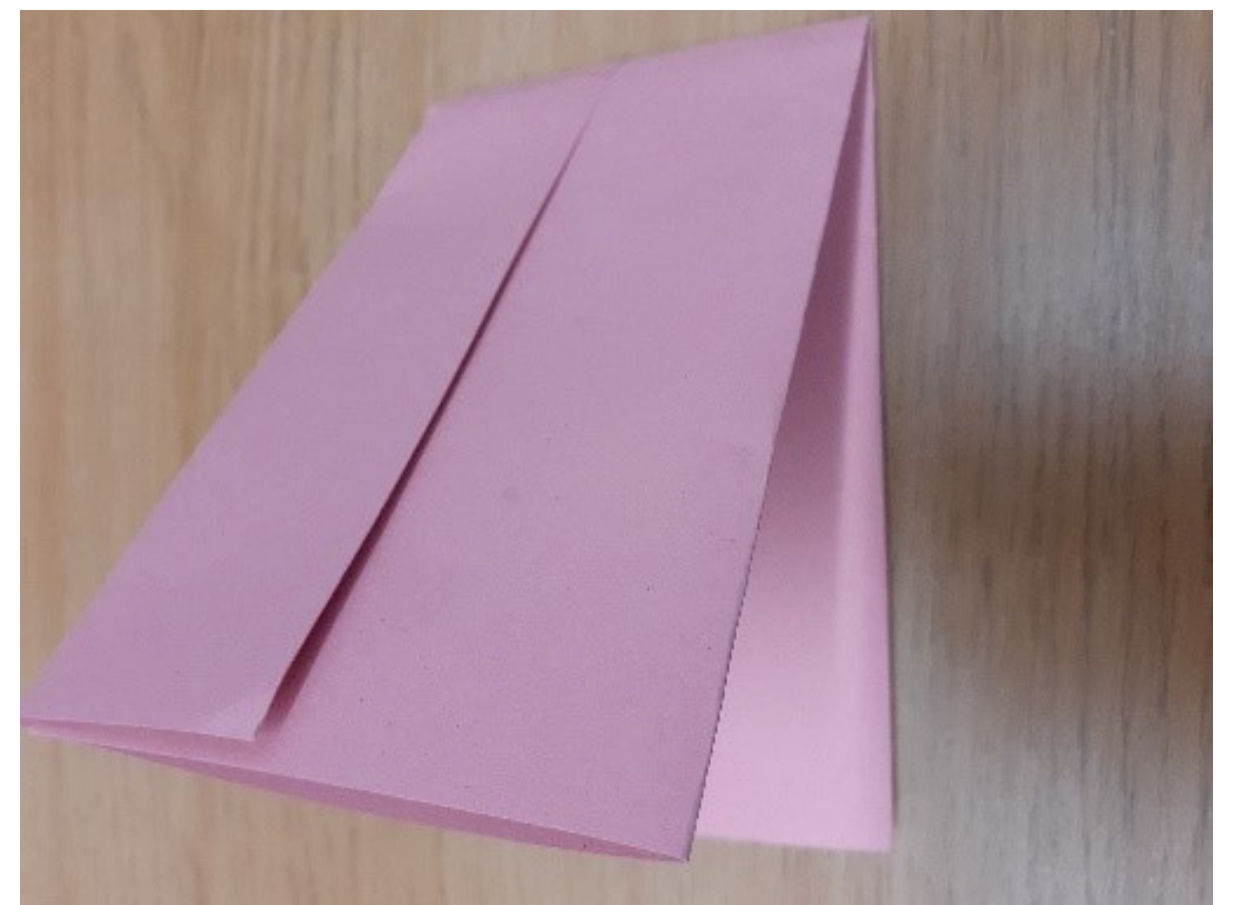


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Step 2: Secure with some glue.



Step 3: With the seam of your fold on the outside, fold again so that it is in half.



Step 3: Take the top part and fold it back on itself (like a concertina).



Step 4: Flip over and repeat steps 2 and 3. You will have created an M shape – this is the mouth of the pig.



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Step 5: Now it's time to decorate. Using your scrap paper or pens you will need to add: two ears, a snout, two eyes and a tongue to your pig and glue in place. If you are making another animal or a person you can adapt how you decorate it to match.

What Next?

Writing: In *The Wolves in the Walls* Lucy's pig puppet comforts her and makes her feel safe when no one else is listening to her. Write about:

- Your favourite toy – Either now or when you were younger. Why is it so special?
- Who are the people in your life that you can talk to if you feel worried? Who are they and why are they important to you?
- Write a story where toys come to life. Do they only come to life when people can't see, or do some people realise? What happens?



Paper Folding: Research origami and find out how to make some different animals by folding paper.

Year of the Pig: The pig is one of the animals represented in the Chinese New Year. Find out which animal year you and the members of your family were born in, and try and make everyone in your family a puppet using this design that represents their animal.

Online Resources: The official Neil Gaiman website for younger readers including Neil reading *Coraline* in the video section and online games and activities linked to his books on the extra's page - visit it [here](#).