

Shadow Puppet Stories

Key Stage 1 & 2

National Curriculum area:
Science - Light, English, RE

Length of session: 75 minutes

Maximum group size: 32



Session Outline

In this fun interactive session pupils explore how shadows are created by handling Javanese puppets and taking part in a performance of the Ramayana.

Activity 1 Handling puppets

Pupils handle Javanese puppets and experiment with making shadows in three supervised groups.

Activity 2 Listening to a story

Pupils listen and participate in a shadow puppet performance of the Hindu story of the Ramayana.

Activity 3 Storyboarding

Pupils go round the Museum finding objects to appear in a creative episode of the Ramayana. Pupils share their ideas and listen to the final part of the story.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand how light and shadow are used to create a puppet performance
- Understand how the Ramayana story links to the Hindu festival of Diwali
- Appreciate how heroes and heroines are presented in puppet and story form

Pre visit activities

Experiment with making shadows.

Look at a map to find the location of Java.

Find out about gamelan and listen to some music (gamelan music accompanies shadow puppet performances in Java).

Post visit activities

Create your own heroes, heroines or villains.

Put on your own puppet show adding musical accompaniment.

Find out about different kinds of puppet shows around the world from the glove puppets of Punch and Judy to the string puppets of North India.



For further details and how to book visit:

www.prm.ox.ac.uk/primary-schools