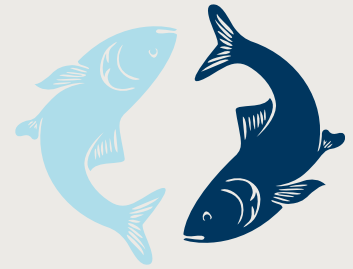


# UNLOCKING FISH FUN

## Activity Sheet FISH PUPPETS

This activity sheet accompanies a matching video tutorial, use them individually or together to best suit you.



UNLOCKING  
THE SEVERN



Everyone enjoys making up and telling stories, there are no limits on where your imagination can take you. You could be in a land far far away or maybe you're an animal with four legs, or wings, or even fins and gills...

From early in history people made puppets to help them tell stories, and today you can join that tradition and make some of your own. This guide will show you how to make fish puppets to help you think about and understand our rivers and the creatures that live there.

### You will need:

- Thick paper / or alternatively thin paper with some card and glue
- A thick black pen
- A thin black pen
- Felt colouring pens or paints
- Scissors
- Blu Tack
- A wooden spoon or two borrowed from the kitchen (make sure you ask permission and take them back when you have finished!)



## STEP 1



- Draw your fish onto the thick paper. If you need some guidance, our accompanying video will help you with this. If you only have thin paper, you can stick the drawing down afterwards onto the cardboard.

- Remember you can draw any fish you can imagine... maybe even a favourite of Unlocking the Severn, a shad! Think about how your fish looks; how are their eyes and mouths shaped? What about their gills and fins?

- If you want some more inspiration, check out our fish guide at [www.unlockingthesevern.co.uk](http://www.unlockingthesevern.co.uk).



A beautiful twaite shad for inspiration

## STEP 2



- Once you have drawn your first fish, draw a second one, a fishy friend! This time make sure your fish is facing the other way. This is so that your two fish puppets can talk to each other.



## STEP 3



- Don't forget to colour in your fish! Will they be realistic with silvery colours? Or rainbow? Or even magical with pinks and purples?

## STEP 4



- Carefully cut out both fish.
- To make them even better you could trace the fish shape onto another piece of paper. Then draw and colour in the mirror side. When you stick them together your fish will be colourful on both sides and can swim in different directions or turn around and still be beautifully seen.



## STEP 5



- To turn your fishy characters into puppets, attach a blob of Blu Tack to the top of the wooden spoon handle and stick on your fish.
- If your fish has two sides, you can put the handle of the spoon between them and use extra blobs of Blu Tack to seal the head and tail around the wooden handle.

## STEP 6



- Now you have your puppets you can start making up and telling all manner of stories and adventures. You could even make a fish TV (see the Fish TV activity video in this series) and use it as a puppet theatre for your performances!



## Extra ideas to take it further:



- Make a fish TV using our video guide and activity sheet in the Unlocking Fish Fun series and create a puppet theatre for your shows.

- Turn your story into a film using our guide to filming, also in the series, and share it with your friends and family.

- Make other supporting props, how about a weir or fish pass to celebrate the Unlocking the Severn project?

Or maybe a predator like an otter or heron to add some danger! Maybe you could make some gravel or a riverbed, or weeds and vegetation? The possibilities are endless.

- Think about how your characters interact, are they friends? Do they work together to solve a mystery or just meet in passing as they swim along?



We hope that you have lots of fun making your fish puppets and we would love to see them.

Please share your creations with us on social media and tag us

**@SevernUnlocked** and use the hash tag **#UnlockingFishFun**.

Or you can contact us via our website:

[www.unlockingthesevern.co.uk](http://www.unlockingthesevern.co.uk)