

Best Monster Movie Ever *Evening Experience*

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SUMMARY:	Participants will create their own monsters and then produce a short film - <i>Submitted by Daniel Abramson, Tomer Moked, Asya Gribov, Mary Spadoni</i>
TOPIC(S):	Film, Theatre, Performance, Visual Arts
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participants will learn to make sock puppets. 2. Participants will learn how to imagine diversity as a strength
AUDIENCE:	Ages 7 and up
TIMING:	90 minutes
APPENDICES:	
MATERIALS NEEDED:	<p>Socks, gloves, wooden spoons googly eyes craft pom poms felt glue (that dries quickly and holds strong such as Beacon 3-in-1 Advanced Craft Glue) fake fur or yarn for hair Buttons, ribbons, markers, etc. for embellishments Needle and thread for sutures (embroidery thread or dental floss, and tapestry needles work great and aren't too sharp!) Other accessories are fun, such as small hats, glasses, earrings, etc. tea, coffee, cookies, popcorn Variety of pop/soda to make monster potion juice puppet theatre (cardboard box, or string and a sheet) video camera or other device to record short film on Large paper to make the "set backdrop" Stereo Fun "monster music" ex: Monster Mash, This is Halloween,</p>
SET-UP DETAILS:	Art room or other space where crafts can be created

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

Before the session:

- Facilitators should set the stage for the program by creating a space to create the puppets, a space to film short movies, a place to watch the films, and a snack bar. Imagine a monster movie film festival!
- Prepare monster music playlist and set out popcorn and a monster juice station (with all kinds of juice and soda that participants can mix)
- Create a sample of backdrop set (Forest, City, etc...) or create a puppet theatre with a large cardboard box or with a tension set shower curtain rod and some fabric in a doorway

How To Make Sock Puppets: Sock puppet materials can vary. It's really up to you what you want to use. Just use your imagination!

1. Find a suitable sock. Longer socks work better, one that goes up the child's arm.
2. Insert hand and locate where the mouth would be. Push the sock in to make the mouth. Cut a circle or oblong shape of felt for the mouth. Add a tongue with pink felt. Glue tongue at one end only so that it can be moved up and down by the speech therapist and patient.
3. Glue mouth piece in place. You can do this with the hand inserted. Take the hand out gently, let the glue set for a few minutes.
4. Time to place on the eyes. You can glue the googly eyes on the pom poms first, then glue the pom poms on top of the sock. It's easier to place hand inside the sock to get proper placement.
5. Glue or sew on nose, hair, clothing, jewelry, and whatever embellishments you'd like, to give your puppet personality!



Making Your Puppet (45 min):

Invite participants to:

- Help themselves to some pop/soda to make monster potion juice for inspiration
- Design and craft their sock monster puppets

Planning Your Movie (30 Min):

Join a group of 4-6. Create your monster movie starring your monster puppets. Create a script for your monster. One great way to get started is to take a classic fairy tale and re-tell it with your own monster spin. Superhero style stories are also amazing, as are tales of everyday life at Monster Camp.

The theme for your movie is “We may look different yet we are all the same...” Try to find ways in which your monster’s unique personality, traits, or talents are strengths and assets to the whole group.

The following text is a great Jewish take on differences. Use it as an introduction, or after the conclusion of the program. You can use it wherever it feels like the right fit for your participants.

ולהגיד גדלתו של הקדוש ברוך הוא, שאדם טובע כמה מטבעות בחותם אחד וכלן דומין זה לזה, ומלך מלכי המלכים הקדוש ברוך הוא טבע כל אדם בחותמו של אדם הראשון ואין אחד מהן דומה לחברו.

When a person makes some coins with the same mold we know that each one has the same value because each of them is identical. How amazing is it that when God creates all people from the mold of the first human that each of us has the same value, but not one of us looks the same as another?

Some reflection questions:

- What does it mean to be created from a common mold and yet be unique?
- What features are common to all people?
- What are the features of our differences?

Filming Your Video:

You can create a set using the backdrop and your talent or film outside using nature as your set. Think of a fun way to tell a short story that we could show for campers in camp.

Use your smartphone or a portable camera and create a short film. (Not longer than 2 min).



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ADDITIONAL NOTES FOR BRINGING IT BACK TO CAMP:

This program can be adapted to be light or very deep. The theme of “differences being a source of strength” is meaningful for all ages. Older campers might even want to make short films about how they are unique and about how that makes them special and valuable.

There are a few cute stories that support the teaching about difference and self-esteem. These are always great additions to a program as a reflection or extension activity.

I'm Gonna Like Me: Letting Off a Little Self-Esteem
by Jamie Lee Curtis and Laura Cornell

Don't Laugh at Me
by Steve Seskin, Allen Shamblin
Illustrated by Glin Dibley

The Woman Who Outshon the Sun
by Alejandro Cruz Martinez

Wonder
by R. J. Palacio