

# LARRIKIN PUPPETS: MORE THAN A ZANY PUPPET SHOW

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT & LEARNING EXPERIENCES

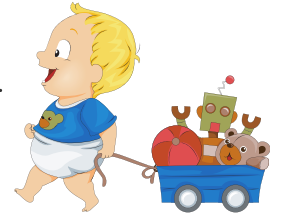


### TALK

Our puppets talk to each other and to the audience regularly throughout the puppet show, giving children the opportunity to practise, observe and communicate effectively. New words, phrases and expressions will be more meaningful as the puppets are often visually acting out the scene. During our storytime puppet shows, What a fun way to develop vocabulary!

### PLAY

Up to 90% of a child's brain development happens in the first 5 years and play is a vital part of that. Our puppet shows are chock-full of creative play! Play is essential to development because it contributes to the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of children.



### SING

The puppets love to sing no matter how good or bad they are at it. Singing is a fun and fantastic way for children to hear sounds and learn new words. Our puppet show does this in a fun and interactive way so as to contribute to later literacy abilities. Rhyming in songs provides exercise for the brain and develops valuable memory skills while dancing and moving to music helps children develop better motor skills.



### MUSIC

We use music throughout our show – a combination of original and popular songs. Exposure to music from early childhood onwards helps children to speak more clearly, develop a larger vocabulary, and strengthen social and emotional skills. Music has the ability to strengthen the connection between the body and brain to work together as a team.



### DANCE

Our puppets love to dance and invite the audience to join in with a few fun dance numbers. Dancing to music helps children learn what their bodies can do, developing movement control, coordination, spatial awareness and strength. It also uses different muscles to standing and walking. Dance also teaches children how to interact with other people and the world around them.



### INTERACT

Ours isn't a quiet show, so no huge amounts of shushing is required. We encourage our audiences to interact – sing, dance and play along. In a fun and safe environment like an interactive puppet theatre, children can access unfamiliar emotions, learn greater tolerance and improve their ability to read the emotions of others.



### BOND

To help enhance social bonds and provide a useful role in helping children develop emotional intelligence, our puppet show is best enjoyed by children together with adults. When people behave similarly, they perceive each other as more alike which, in turn, creates a sense of connection or attachment. There is also enormous value for parents, grandparents, carers and teachers to role-model how to watch a theatre show. Sometimes it's the first puppet show or theatre performance a child has ever seen! They tend to get very excited, so it's important to support them to learn how to interact with a live theatre performance.

