

# ANIMAL SILHOUETTE PUPPETS ACTIVITY



## Procedure:

Cut out the silhouettes. Tape each animal to a single straw. Then, find a location where there is sunlight streaming through the window. Use the animal silhouettes to cast shadow puppets on the wall. Spin, twist and shake your shadow puppet to see what happens.



### Think about it:

What about when there isn't sunlight streaming through the window?  
What would happen? What else can you use to create a shadow?  
What happens when you try casting shadows against a darker colored wall?

### Supplies needed:

- animal silhouettes
- straws
- scissors
- tape
- sunlight
- flashlights

## WHAT'S THE SCIENCE BEHIND SHADOWS?

Shadows are all about physics and light. You need a source of light for there to be a shadow. This is the reason why the groundhog may or may not see his shadow depending on the weather that day.

Here, we are using the sun as our light source. When an object is in front of the light source it blocks the light and creates the shadow. Since the light can't pass through our paper, it creates a shadow on the wall.

If our paper were transparent however, the light would pass through and there would NOT be a shadow! You can also play around with the angle you hold your stick shadow puppets or how close or far from the wall you hold them. What happens?

Now when Groundhogs Day rolls around you will know exactly what's going on!











