



# Virtual Purple Museum

## SHADOW SHAPES

Dr. Seuss' book, *The Shape of Me and Other Stuff*, is a celebration of different shapes and objects, all outlined as silhouettes. Join us and experiment with shadows, light, and shapes to make silhouettes dance across your custom-made theatre!

*"The shape of you  
the shape of me  
the shape of everything I see  
A bug...a balloon  
A bed  
A bike.  
No shapes are ever quite a like."  
—Dr. Seuss*

## SUGGESTED MATERIALS

- ☐ Scissors and box or poster board
- ☐ Waxed paper or tissue paper
- ☐ Flashlight or bright lamp
- ☐ Thin cardboard  
(cereal box, poster board, cardstock)
- ☐ Paintbrushes
- ☐ Bamboo stick, straw, or hanger wire
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Optional: brass fasteners, string, or twist ties



## CREATE!

- 1. Create your screen.** Cut 3-4 pieces of waxed or tissue paper, each about 2 feet long. Cut a large rectangular opening in a cereal box to create a frame for the waxed paper. Stack the waxed paper together and tape it to the frame. Use extra cardboard to create legs.
- 2. Create a puppet.** Using thin cardboard, cut out a shape. Start simple and get more complex as you go. Tape a bamboo skewer or straw to the back of your puppet shape to hold it up.
- 3. Make your silhouette.** Hold a flashlight behind your puppet and hold your puppet close to the back of your screen. Look on the other side to see a shadow silhouette. Move the puppet and the light to see how the silhouette changes.
- 4. Put on a show.** Make multiple puppets to create a show. You can make puppets move by creating separate pieces and attaching them with brass fasteners or twist ties. Have fun naming your puppet characters and giving your theatrical performance a fabulously silly or stupendous title. Tell a fun story and let the show begin!