

# Fly with Equality: Make a Bird Puppet

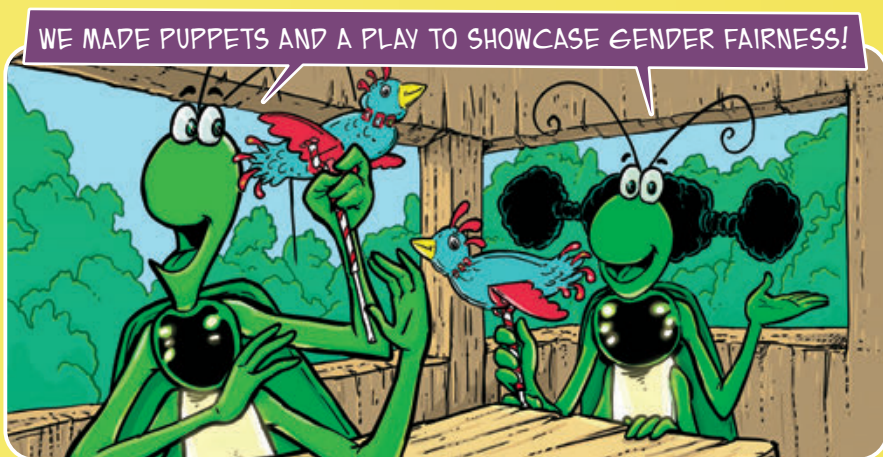
“Until womankind reaches the same degree as man, until she enjoys the same arena of activity . . . humanity cannot wing its way to heights of real attainment.” – ‘Abdu’l-Bahá

**M**y sister, Shiny, asked to join a flying game with some bugs on our block. They told her, “No way—girls can’t keep up.” She said, “That’s a stereotype, and it’s not cool!” Then she flew away.

When Shiny got home, she told me about it. I was glowing with appreciation that she stood up for herself. Those guys weren’t fair. When Shiny’s excited about something, she’s *great* at using determination and creativity to figure it out.

Later, we practiced flying together. I showed her some tips for flying faster with air currents. Pretty soon she was teaching me tricks. When she saw the guys, Shiny flew circles around them! They changed their tune about what girls can do and learned some new moves. When females and males are equally strong, we *all* fly higher.

Check out this cool craft Shiny and I made. We created a puppet show to remind us to fly with equality!



## You'll Need

- printed PDF pattern\*
- 4½" x 11" (11.4 x 28 cm) colorful paper
- 4½" x 11" (11.4 x 28 cm) card stock
- two drinking straws of different widths
- clear tape
- white glue
- pencil
- scissors
- colorful paper and markers for decorating
- optional: craft eyes

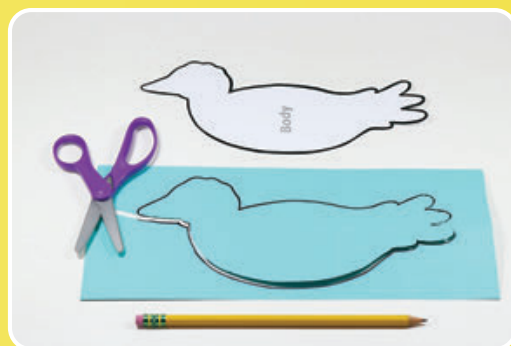
- 1 Cut pattern shapes out. Fold colorful paper in half so short ends touch.



- 2 (a) Place wing pattern on paper so its short end touches fold. Trace with pencil. (b) Cut out wing to make a pair of wings attached at central crease.



- 3 Place body pattern on card stock. Trace and cut out.



- 4 (a) With wings closed and pointing up, fold top wing down to make a crease  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " (3.2 cm) from wing pair's central crease. (b) Flip wings over and repeat step (a)'s fold for other wing.



- 5 Center edge of body's belly along central crease so wing feathers point toward tail. Glue short portions of wings tightly around belly.



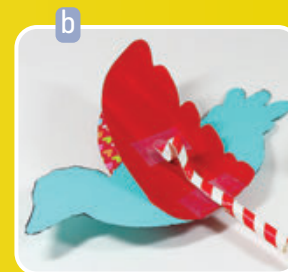
- 6 (a) On one end of thin straw, make a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " (1.3 cm) cut through each side, to make two even tabs. (b) Center bird's belly inside straw's slits. Use tape to secure one tab to each side of belly.



- 7 Cut off  $\frac{1}{3}$  of thick straw's length. On one end of remainder of thick straw, cut a  $3\frac{3}{4}$ " (9.5 cm) sliver out of each side, to make two even flaps.



- 8 (a) Thread thin straw through thick straw—with flaps facing up. Push thick straw up to bottom of slivers. Fold straw flap backward to form a crease that's even with wing's upper crease. Fold half of top section forward. Fold half of new top section back. (b) Use tape to secure only shortest end of straw's flap to wing, so it's 1" (2.5 cm) above crease. Make sure flap's second fold bends outward. Flip bird over and repeat (a)'s folds and step (b) for other flap.



- 9 Use colorful paper, markers, and craft eyes (optional) to decorate bird. Include designs or words about equality. Hold thin straw at its base. Push thick straw up and down to watch the wings go!

