

Week One

Getting to Know the Story

How to Snag a Sea Monster is based on the folktale sometimes called *Old Stormalong*. It's difficult to know the original author of the story, as folktales were usually passed orally from person to person.

Using the folktale *Old Stormalong* as our inspiration, Director of Puppetry Arts Mike Horner took some artistic liberties when he created his puppet version of the story. To take artistic liberties means he made some changes from how the story was originally told.

Before you come see *How to Snag a Sea Monster*, take a look at this version of *Stormalong* by author Mary Pope Osborne. Then, after you watch our new puppet version, as yourself; What artistic liberties did Mike make with his version? What things stayed the same? What might you want to change if you were telling the story yourself?

A couple options for Mary Pope Osborne's version, whichever you'd all prefer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMzLQsjWwCw>

Week Two

Make a Paper Towel Sea Monster

We don't want to give too much away, but the sea monster in *How to Snag a Sea Monster* reminds us to empathize, or put ourselves in the shoes of others. What might seem like disrespectful behavior can simply be a misunderstanding of another point of view. Here is a fun octopus paper towel tube craft from Jumpstart, and it works just as well for making your own sea monster. Once you've finished your sea monster, how can you make it swim through imaginary water? Can you make it eat pretend clam chowder? How might it move it's body if it ate too much clam chowder and got a stomach ache?

<https://www.jumpstart.com/common/awesome-octopus>

Week Three

Create a Baby Puppet

Stormalong appeared in the village one day as just a baby, and quickly grew to tower over even the tallest buildings. Can you imagine what it would feel like to be that tall? You could see things others couldn't, and grab things that are out of other people's reach, but it still might come with

some frustrations. This puppet craft incorporates your own face into the design, letting you pretend to be stormy yourself! Using your own fingers as Stormy's allows your puppet to move their long legs throughout the tiny town. What might your Stormy say if they felt frustrated by being so tall? How might Stormy move their body if they were sneaking up behind the sea monster?

<https://www.stillplayingschool.com/2015/04/personalized-photo-finger-puppets-kids.html>

Week Four

Make a ship with an Egg Carton

It is important for us to know the ways we can be helpful, and Stormy learned just that while working on a ship. Follow this link for a suggestion how you can make your own boat with an egg carton, some straws, and just a few other household items. Not only can you imagine stories with your new boat, explore STEM by seeing how long your boat can float in water, how many things you can put inside it before it sinks, and ways you can strengthen your boat and keep it floating longer.

<https://www.mombrite.com/egg-carton-boat/>

Week Five

Tying it Together

If you've followed along with us, chances are you've looked at other versions of Stormalong, made a sea monster and baby puppet, as well as an egg carton ship. Can you use these things to bring the story to life in your home? Remind yourself; what happens in the beginning, middle, and end of the story? What are some things my characters might say or do to help move the story along? What parts of the story or other characters are missing, and how can you create them to add to your version? Remember, we took artistic liberties, meaning we made changes from the original, and you can too! Take a look at this classroom's stop motion version of Stormalong as inspiration.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVfqBvc-hlc&ab_channel=PuppetryinPractice