

# How to Make “Rubbish Puppets”



**Would you throw  
these away?**

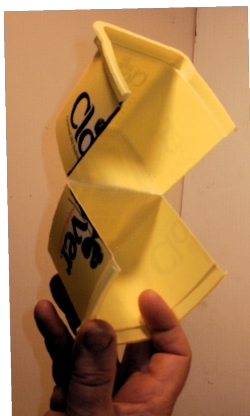
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**2.**

**To make the Puppets you will need the following Equipment and Materials.**



**Masking Tape - A strong pair of Scissors -  
P.V.A glue (eco type) – Hole Punch – Paper Fasteners.**



**Plastic Milk Cartons – 500g Margarine Container  
Milk Carton Tops – Plastic Bags – Corner Yoghurts  
Assortment of Cereal / Pizza / Biscuit Packaging.**

**All templates required for making the various puppets  
can be found on Pages: 13,14,15.**

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# Bottle Top Eyes.

3.

Here's how you do it and when your finished,  
fit them on any Puppet you like.



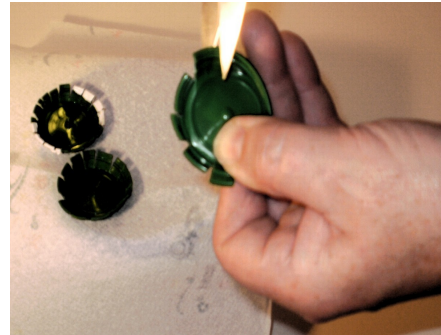
1. Choose a card and draw around the bottle top to make 2 circles.



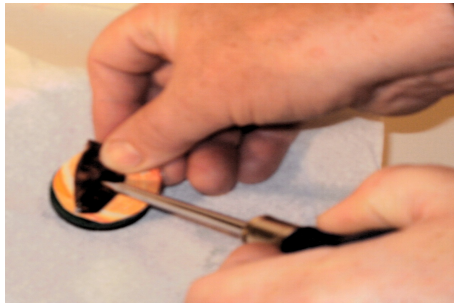
2. Cut out the circles. Cut out two smaller shapes with a contrasting colour. These will be used for the eye pupils. Put aside.



3. Using the hole punch, carefully make a hole in the centre of two Bottle Tops



4. With strong scissors, make small cuts around the 2 tops. Then flatten into flower shapes.



5. Punch a hole in the centre of both shapes.



6. Push a paper fastener through the card and bottle top and secure. You're done.



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**4.**

## **Puppet Mouth and Nose. Using a Corner Yoghurt.**

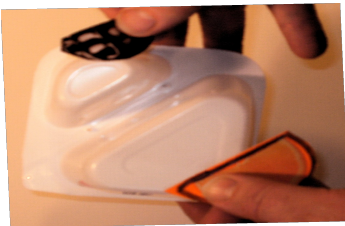
**The following instructions can  
be used for all the puppets.**



**1. Put some tape across  
the centre join. This will  
strengthen it.**



**2. Punch two holes  
through the centre.**



**3. Using the Mouth and Nose  
templates, cut out a mouth and  
nose shape from card and glue  
to yoghurt pot.**



**4. Use a marker to add detail;  
teeth etc.**

**Congratulations! Your nose and  
mouth is complete.**

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5.



## Using Plastic Bags for Puppet Hair and Decoration

Plastic bags are not environmentally friendly. So instead of sending them off to the landfill site, be creative, use them to make Puppets. When it comes to Puppet making, plastic bags can be used in so many ways; here are 2 examples.

### Plastic Strips

These don't sound very inspiring, but when they are used for puppet hair, they can be sensational! (Check out the guy bottom right)

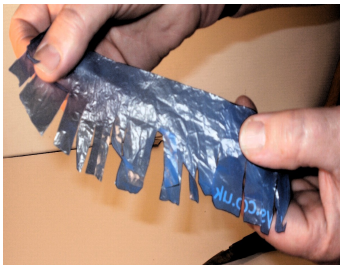


Cut thin strips of plastic, approx 30cm long and 5cm wide .  
(longer if you prefer, you can always trim the hair later).

Bunch strips together and wrap sticky tape around end. It will look like a cheerleader's pom pom.  
Put aside for later.

### Plastic Frills

These can be used to decorate your Puppet and give it a dynamic look.



Cut thin strips of plastic, approx 20cm long and 5 cm wide. Cut slits along the length of the strip, 1 cm apart. The slits should be half way across the width of the strip (See picture).  
These Frills can be glued to your Puppet.  
(See picture bottom left)



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6.



## Upside Down Milk Carton Puppet

1. Turn plastic milk carton upside down. Using ear template draw an ear shape on each side of the carton. Carefully cut around shape with scissors. Pull the flaps out as in picture left. Put aside.

2. Make a mouth and nose using a corner yoghurt. (See page 4)

3. Hold the Yoghurt pot against the milk carton and punch 2 holes through existing holes and into the carton. Attach with paper fasteners



4. Cut out 2 ear shapes, using ear template & glue to puppet.

Make 2 Bottle Top eyes (see page 3). Hold eyes on carton & punch holes through existing eye holes. Attach eye with paper fasteners.



5. Make a hole in bottom (puppets top) of bottle. Be very careful the plastic is thick here.



6. Cut plastic strips (see page 5) from assorted coloured carrier bags. Bunch together and tape end.



7. Push the strips into hole in the bottom (puppet's top) of the Milk Container. Your puppet is complete.



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7.



## Right Side Up Milk Carton Puppet

1. Cut out rectangle at the back of milk carton. Don't throw away the rectangle, keep it safe.



2. Use Ear Template to draw ear shapes on each side of Puppet. Cut around lines and pull out ear flaps.



3. Make Corner Yoghurt Nose & Mouth- (see page 4) Hold in place on the milk carton. Push hole punch through existing holes to pierce milk carton. Attach corner yoghurt to milk carton with paper fasteners.



4. Punch holes and attach Bottle Top Eyes (see page 3) using paper fasteners.



5. Using Ear Template, cut out 2 ear shapes from card. Punch a hole in centre of both shapes. Hold shape on ear flap and punch hole into flap. Attach Ear shapes with paper fasteners; or glue ear shapes to ear flaps.



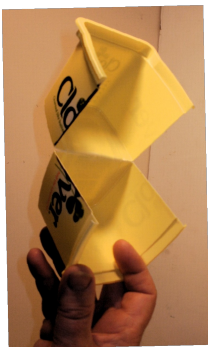
6. Cut out Plastic Strips (see page 5). Bunch them together and tape end. fix hair by pushing into hole at the neck of carton. Well done! You've finished.

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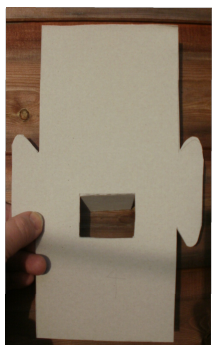


8.



# Margarine Container Puppet

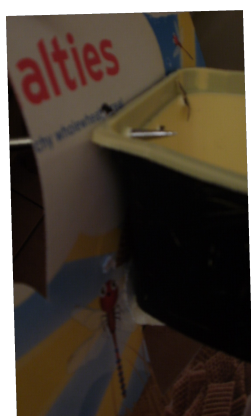
1 . Cut down each side of margarine container. Paint around container. (I used black to make it stand out)



2. Using Margarine Container Puppet Template cut out puppet shape from card. Do not cut along the dotted line. Fold the dotted line inwards so the flap pokes out the back.

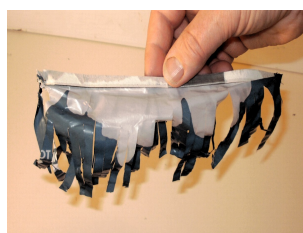


3.Punch holes through the upper flap and into bottom of margarine container. Attach with paper fasteners. (Left and Right)



4.. Punch hole through front of card and the container behind. Make two Bottle Top Eyes (page 2) Push paper fastener through eye holes, Puppet head and through marg container. This will fix eyes and also secure head to marg container.

5.. Cut a plastic frill (see page 5) Tape it to top of Puppet Head. Brilliant! A great puppet with a serious hair style. Now it's up to you to decorate your character with paint, frills or whatever you can think of.



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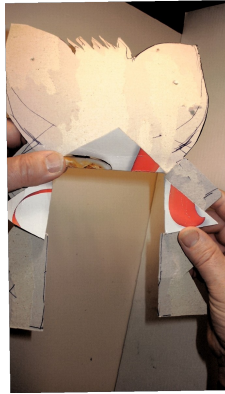
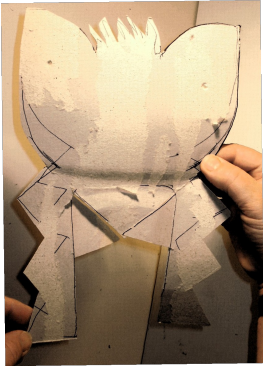


**9.**

# Corner Yoghurt Pot Puppet



**1. Make Corner Yoghurt Mouth and Nose (see page 4). Put aside.**



**2. Using Corner Yoghurt Pot Puppet Template, cut out shape from card. Do not cut along the dotted lines; these are for folding. Fold in the three flaps (Pic to left)**



**3. Attach nose and mouth to head by pushing it through the rectangular gap (square shape on top). The flaps should now be against the sides of the pot. Glue flaps to pot.**



**4. Using ear template, draw shape on card and cut out. Glue ears to head.**



**5. Cut some 'Plastic Frills' (see page5) and glue on to Puppet. It's all done!  
What is it? An Alien! An Insect! Only you will know.**

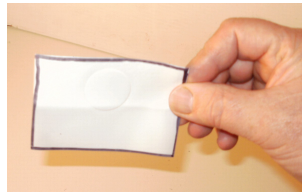
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10.

## A Very Special Puppet “Mitsy”



Remember the rectangle we cut from the back of the “Right Side Up” milk carton puppet. I told you to save it. Well now we need it. Don't worry if you can't find it, you can always make another.



1. Using the “Mitsy” template and plastic rectangle, cut out the shape.  
Make sure the wee hole is just big enough for your middle finger. It needs to be nice and tight when you put your finger in.



2. Attach 'Bottle Top Eyes'  
(See page 3)  
Now he's coming to life!



3. You can use Plastic Frills or Strips for her hair (see page 5) .  
However for my special dude, I gave him a fir coat and feathers for his hair. It's not really a fir coat, just a fluffy wool glove. Doesn't it work well. And what a mover.  
He can walk on all fours or sit up.

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# 11.

## How to Operate your Puppet with two People

Your Puppet is unique to you. After all you made it. Just as your hand writing is different from everyone else, so is your puppet. There isn't another exactly like yours. So why not share your creation by asking someone to help you operate it. It's fun to work with your puppet on your own, so why not double the fun by asking a friend to help you bring your new character to life.

**Here's How.**



1. Make two holes in the neck of your Puppet. Make them big enough to push a 20" bamboo stick through.



2. Put a shirt on your Puppet using the bamboo as shoulders. The front of the shirt facing you, the puppeteer. Fasten top button to secure shirt to bamboo stick.



3. With your right hand grip the bottom of rectangle at back of Puppet head. The left hand is put through left sleeve of shirt until hand is exposed. This is now the Puppet's left hand. (Tip) Use white gloves for a better effect.



4. Get a friend to put their arm in the right shirt sleeve. Now, both hold the Puppet high and of you go.

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12.



## The What Do I Do Next Page

You've made your puppet.  
It looks great!  
Your own unique creation.  
But now what?  
What do you do with it?



That's what this page is all about. Putting your Puppet into action. Giving it life and movement. And it's all in your hands - literally. Your Puppet works best with two people operating it. So this is the perfect time to ask someone to help. Someone to be your left hand or right, depending on what side your standing.

It's thinking time. Don't worry it won't hurt. All you have to do is think about what you can do with your puppet. This is where the fun begins. With two people operating your Puppet it can do almost anything a person can do. So start simple. Let your Puppet grab a brush and off you go sweeping the floor.

When that's finished maybe it's time to sit down and have a soft drink. After your drink why not have a look at a book or magazine.

It's that simple thinking up stuff. It's stuff you do all the time.

As I said on the previous page you double the fun when you are working your Puppet with a friend. So why not quadruple the fun; ask two more people with a puppet, and have a go at a little scene. It could take place at the doctors, bus stop, library, garda station. Try out some scenes using three puppets. Go for it and have fun.

Have a look at the pictures on this page.

You may recognise some of the puppets. The puppeteers in the pictures are behind pieces of cloth draped over a frame; something else to think about.

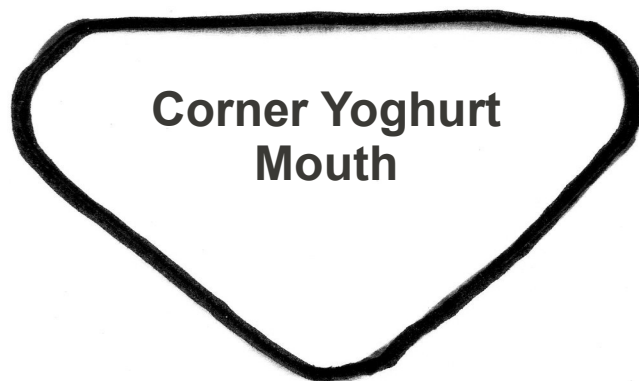
Good luck with your puppets – have fun.



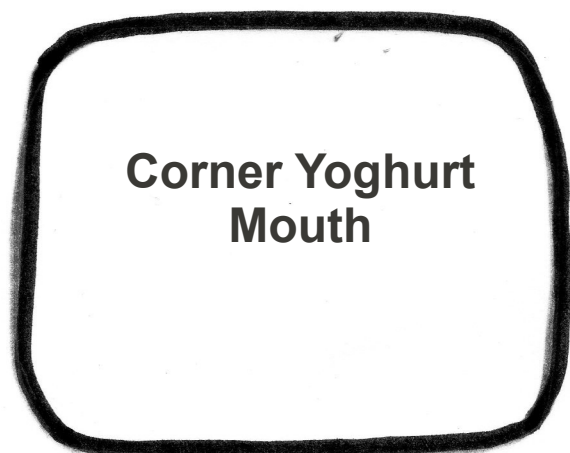
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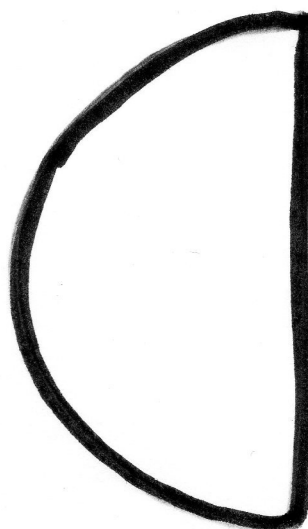
# 13. Corner Yoghurt Nose



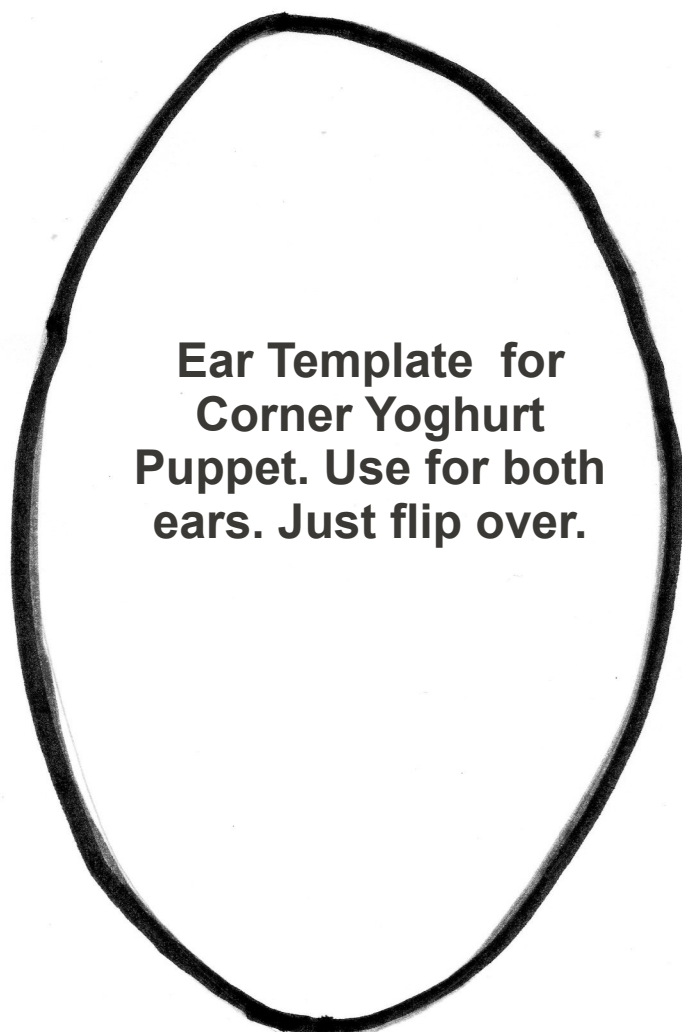
**Corner Yoghurt  
Mouth**



**Corner Yoghurt  
Mouth**



**Ear Flap  
template  
for Milk  
Carton  
Puppets.  
Use For  
both ears.  
Just flip it  
over**



**Ear Template for  
Corner Yoghurt  
Puppet. Use for both  
ears. Just flip over.**



**Mitsy Template**  
The hole at the  
bottom should  
• be just big  
enough for  
your middle  
finger.

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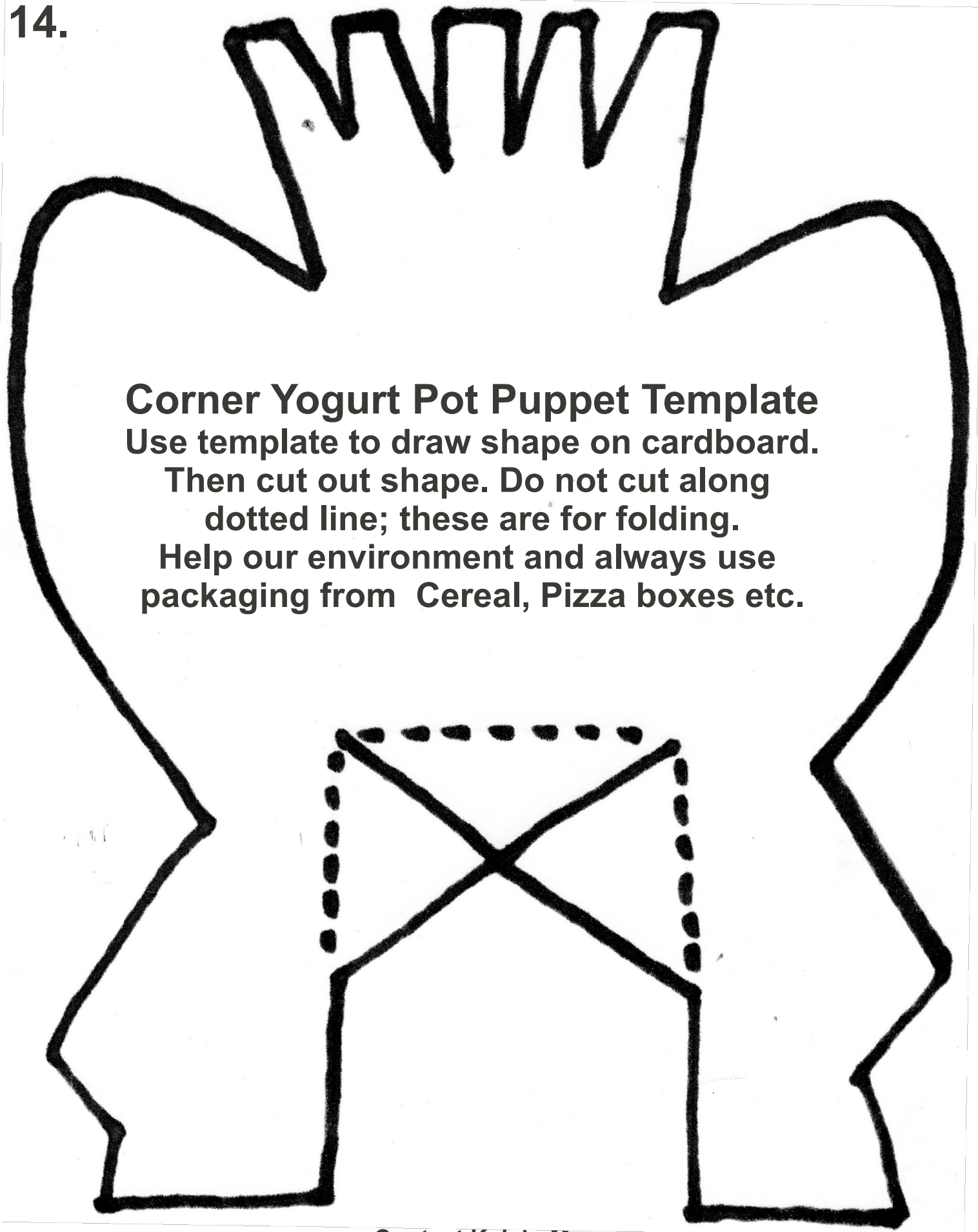
14.

## Corner Yogurt Pot Puppet Template

Use template to draw shape on cardboard.

Then cut out shape. Do not cut along  
dotted line; these are for folding.

Help our environment and always use  
packaging from Cereal, Pizza boxes etc.



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15.

## **Margarine Container Puppet Template**

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cardboard. Then cut out shape.**

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**Help our environment and always  
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boxes etc.**

