

What I've Learned About Puppetry From VeggieTales

By Amy Harder

Everyone's favorite talking vegetables can do so much more than tell us Bible stories, they can also teach us principles of movement that we can adapt right into our puppetry! Don't believe me? Join us as we analyze eye focus, poses, and body movements that show emotion and define the characters, and then try them out with a puppet! Bring your favorite puppet and be ready to play along in this unique class for puppeteers of any skill level.

BUT FIRST: Watch those copyright laws. Make sure you have the proper license (like CVLI) or express written consent before any public showing (this includes viewings with just your puppet team). All video clips shown today, July 14, 2007, are used with permission from Big Idea, Inc.

"We do have to take on the role of being an actor . . . and it is challenging without arms and legs." Marc Vulcano, Animation Director on *Jonah*

Body Movements: _____

- *Bob & Larry's How to Draw* (32:55-33:13) stance/posture
- *The Ballad of Little Joe* (15:08-17:10) coolness
- *Duke and the Great Pie War* (12:45-13:44) ditsy

Body Movements: _____

- *Lyle the Kindly Viking* (27:27-28:52) anger/fear
- *Duke and the Great Pie War* (16:41-18:03) sad/happy
- *Jonah* (26:49-27:14) apprehension
- *Jonah* (29:12-30:10) embarrassment
- *Jonah* (45:10-47:00) despair
- *Gideon: Tuba Warrior* (13:37-17:02) confusion, nervousness, confidence, panic, frustration

Spatial Movements: _____

- *Where's God When I'm S-scared?* (17:32-17:39) off-balance
- *Jonah* (01:01:17-01:01:22) weight
- *A Snoodle's Tale* (24:26-25:38) motion with emotion
- *Sheerluck Holmes* (29:28-29:50) motion with emotion

Spatial Movements: _____

- *Jonah* (14:54-17:05) Broadway style – large group
- *Sheerluck Holmes* (27:38-29:26) Broadway style – duo
- *Sheerluck Holmes* (24:17-25:30) trio/quartet
- *Lyle the Kindly Viking* (23:44-24:55) Gilbert & Sullivan with reversal
- *The Ballad of Little Joe* (06:03-06:30) subtlety
- *LarryBoy and the Bad Apple* (41:01-43:32) rock band

<http://del.icio.us/DearMyrah/ahVT>