



March-April 2008

LIFE WITH EUGENE

by Lanny and Marilyn Johnson

Hi! My name is Marilyn, but my friends call me Mare. This is Eugene, one of my special puppet friends! You may have met Eugene at your church if they hosted a Discover Creation Seminar by Alpha Omega Institute. If you have ever met Eugene you will never forget him ... he is quite the character! Many kids come up and ask me after a program, "What is it like to live and travel with Eugene?" Eugene, Lanny (my husband), and I travel all over the United States and even to some foreign countries teaching families what is scientifically wrong with the idea of evolution. Using power-point presentations and hands-on science we teach kids and adults that they were created by God and certainly did not come from some puddle of goo or a monkey. One of the ways that we show the truth of Creation is by teaching kids Bible verses. Poor Eugene has sooooo much trouble learning memory verses! In fact he messes them up so bad that we end up saying the verse over and over to help him. I can't believe some of the funny mistakes he makes trying to say a memory verse. I never really

know what wild and funny things he is going to come up with next. Eventually, with a lot of help from the audience, Eugene finally does get the verse right. As he says, "There is nothing more important to be serious about than learning God's Word!" He's right about that and certainly has a lot of fun doing it! Eugene also likes to entertain us by singing the funniest songs. With his voice, perhaps making a joyful noise might be a better description of his 'singing'. Here is a sample of one of his silly songs:



*Jesus loves the little children
All the children of the world
Red and Yellow, Black and White
Evolution just 'ain't' right!*

Jesus loves the little children of the world

As silly as the song is, he is right; evolution isn't right. I wish one of the Alpha Omega Institute teams had come to our church and taught me about Creation ... then maybe when I went off to college I would have known the things they taught me about evolution were not right!

It is amazing how a little orange lion puppet that travels either in a suitcase, or a bucket, can

be used to tell folks about Jesus and his Creation! Children say the memory verses, and sing his songs, long after we have gone on down the road. They write letters to him asking hard questions like "Who created God?", "What about this new evidence that says we came from a monkey?" or "How can I be saved?" A lot of ministry is done with a little orange puppet.

You too can tell others about Jesus and Creation using puppets. By following the instructions on the back of the page you can make your own puppet. Your puppet can look like an orange lion, a dinosaur, or any of your favorite animals. Using your puppet you might explain to your friends how dinosaurs and the Bible fit together, or any of the many other truths of Creation.

If you need answers to your tough questions about Creation or evolution just write Eugene at *Alpha Omega Institute, Attention Eugene, P.O. Box 4343, Grand Junction, Colorado, 81502*. Or

you can e-mail him at lannyjohnson@discovercreation.org. Be patient because he is out on the road traveling a lot and it might take a little while for an answer. Better yet, have us come to your area to do a Discover Creation Family Seminar, Vacation Bible School, or Bible Campit is easier than you think! Call Alpha Omega for a free seminar package and information at 970-523-9943 or e-mail Gail at aoi@discovercreation.org. You can also indicate your interest on the questionnaire enclosed in this issue.

HOW TO MAKE A SOCK PUPPET

Supplies:

- One sock
- Cool Glue Gun or Liquid Glue
- Scissors
- Cereal Box
- Decorating Items: Pompons, Yarn, Buttons, Sequins, Beads, Feathers, Scrap Material, Felt or other items.

Hold this pattern up to a window or other light source and trace onto a piece of paper. Then cut out pattern on the paper and use to draw pattern onto cardboard of a cereal box.

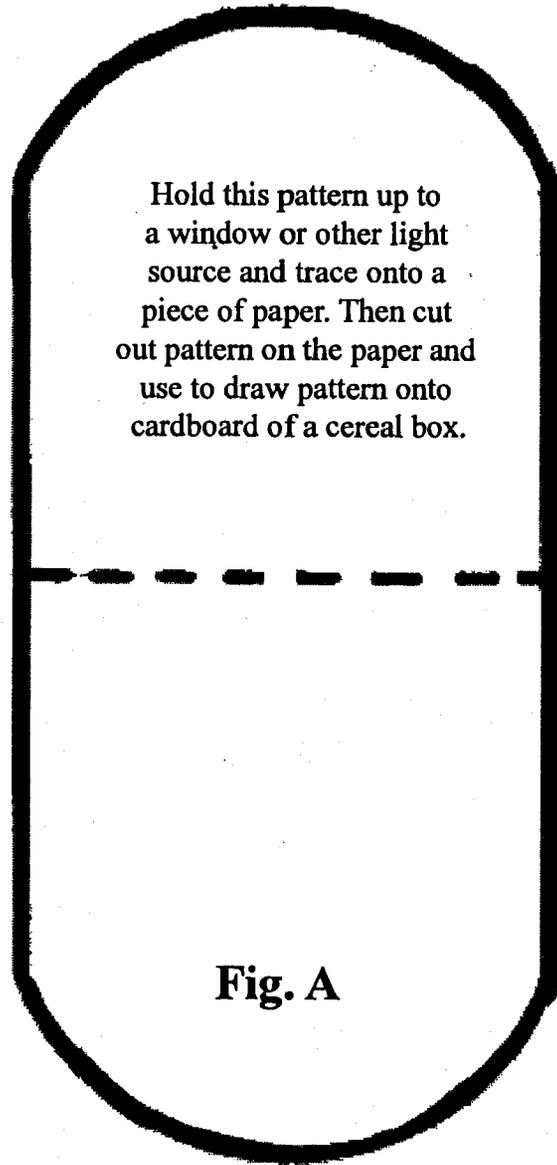


Fig. A

Cover the table with throw-away paper for gluing. A cool glue gun with help from an adult works best but if you use liquid glue the pieces will have to dry for a few hours before you can use your puppet.

Using the mouth pattern (Fig. A) cut a cardboard mouth out of a cereal box. Turn your sock inside out and glue the cardboard mouth on the toe of the sock as shown (Fig. B). Once dry or cooled turn the sock right side out and bend the cardboard in half as shown in the picture (Fig. C). Now you are ready to decorate with any of the many supplies you find around your house!

When you are decorating make sure you don't accidentally glue the eyes in the mouth (the hard cardboard area)! **Remember**, your hand has to go inside the sock, so do not glue decorations completely around the sock or your hand won't be able to slide in!

We cannot begin to create things as wonderful as God did, but He did design each of us with our own unique imaginations and ability to be creative! Have fun!!!!

Use a sheet, cardboard box or the back of the couch as a puppet stage. Puppets are not real animals or people but they are great tools to tell others about Jesus and how special God has made us!

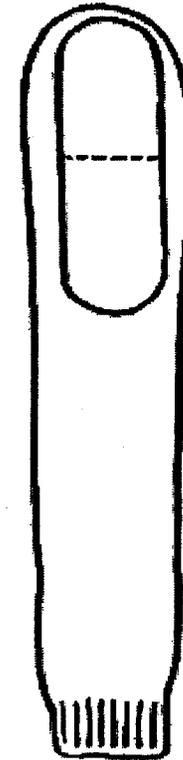


Fig. B



Fig. C

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