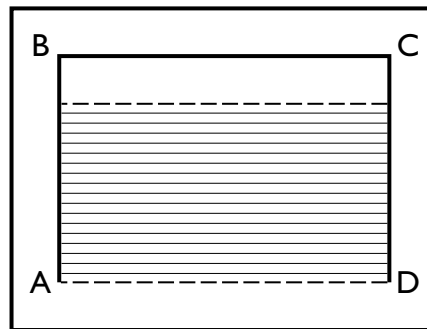


Making a toy theatre (i)

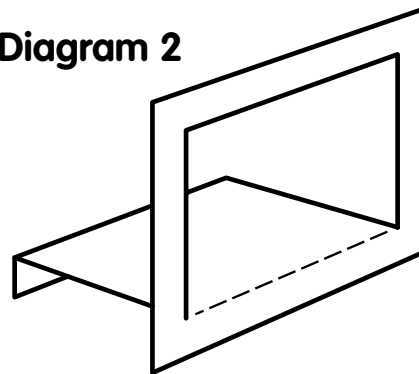
1. Colour in the border on sheet **11B**.
2. Cut out the border and stick it on a piece of card.
3. Draw lines across the centre of the card as diagram 1 shows.

Diagram 1

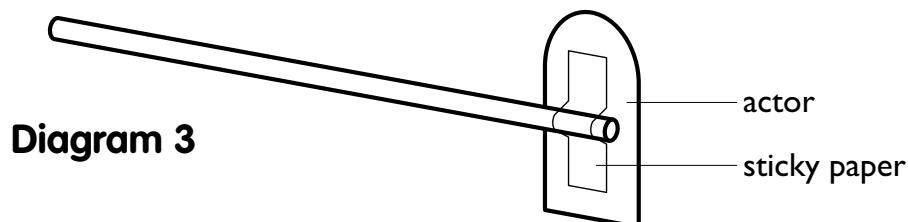


4. Cut the card along lines A–B, B–C and C–D.
5. Fold back the card and then fold a little of it over to make the back stage support as diagram 2 shows.

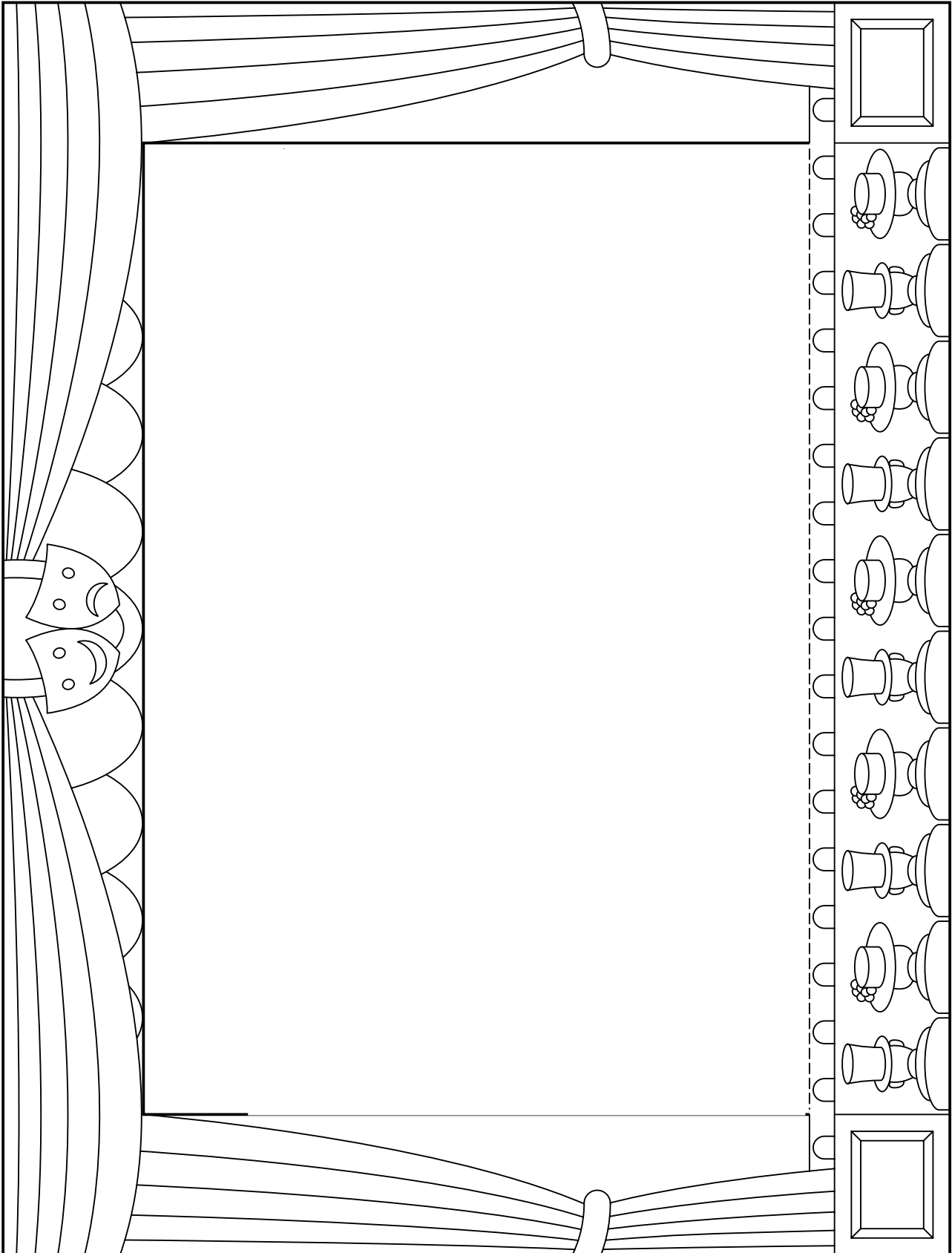
Diagram 2



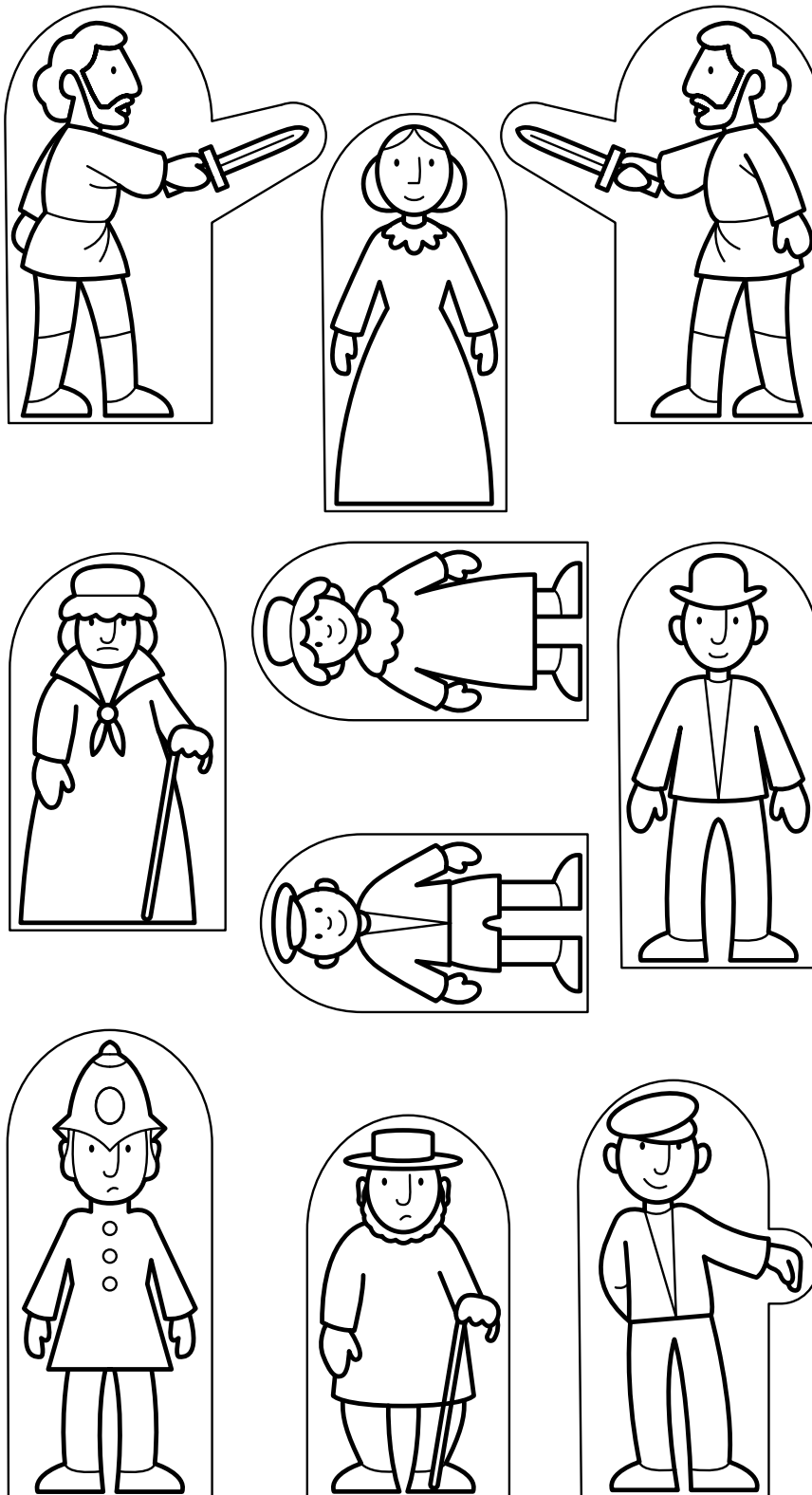
6. Colour in the actors on sheet **11C**.
7. Stick the actors on card and cut them out.
8. Use sticky paper to attach each actor to a straw as diagram 3 shows.



9. Work out a play with the actors and perform it with your friends.



Making a toy theatre (iii)



Making a toy theatre

Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).
- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

Resources

Copies of the worksheets on pages 80–82, stiff card, scissors, straws, paste, sticky paper, coloured pencils or pens.

Using the worksheet

In activity 10 the students may have asked you about a toy theatre. This was constructed from card. Sheets of actors were bought and coloured in then they were used to perform a play. Remind the students that in Victorian times there was no television so the making and using of toy theatres was in some way a substitute for watching television today. If you take this view you may say that toy theatres were more challenging as the children had to make their own entertainment.



Note that half the actors need a straw attaching to them from their left and half from their right. This allows people working the actors to be at different sides of the stage. One swordsman needs to have a straw attached to the right while the other is attached to the left. Some Victorian plays involved a sword fight but you do not need to let the students perform a play with this feature. You could make copies of the other actors or the students could draw their own for their play.

Younger students

Let the students work through the steps on page 80. They may need some help assembling the stage. Groups of students should try and make up a simple play using the actors or add some actors of their own.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Follow instructions to construct a toy theatre.
- Make up a play and perform it.

Older students

Let the students work through the steps on page 80. They could make some scenery for the back of the stage and devise a way of setting it up. Groups of students should try and make up a simple play using the actors or add some actors of their own.

Outcomes

The students can:

- Follow instructions to construct a toy theatre.
- Make up a play and perform it.
- Devise ways of adding scenery to the theatre.