

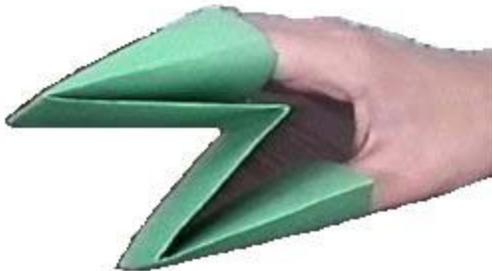


Play Tectonics **The Hinge**

Like the Wheel, the Sail or the hand-cranked radio, the Paper Talker Hinge carries and generates energy -- in this case, "Play Energy" -- into communication on a wavelength that captivates and engages the young of all ages. Play is a language that we adults can learn to speak, and which children feel, intuit, speak and understand innately. The Hinge embodies a limitless array of building blocks of movement and language, and is a key springboard element in a handheld "Play Language" of symbols and ideas. It is an approachable visual art that calls upon the articulation of hand, becoming a portal into the biology and science of Play. It is a principle foundation on which to build, a pathway on which to move, a birthright to honor. In this simple device is the world of ideas to traverse, a learning culture to transform, and generations of creative minds to defend and grow.

The Paper Talker Hinge Opens and Closes to the Pulsebeat of the Universe:

Activates, exercises and enhances early hand, mind, and speech.



- Opens doors
- Focuses perceptions
- Creates learning opportunities
- Sparks & Engages action
- Flaps provide lift for Elevation, Vision & Visibility
- Wings for the soaring of spirit and imagination
- Invites playful opening of mind, voice, speech
- Provides fuel, thrust and propulsion
- Articulation engages mind and body

The Hinge began as a basic building block in the construction of puppets -- innocuous, flimsy, artsy. In the casual opening and closing of the hand, the seeming impracticality of using puppets is rendered practical as Play Language housed in an economical paper device. Suitable for all ages, The Hinge embodies endless design potential, is self-promoting, alive and eye-catching. Crafting a Paper Talker puppet upon the Hinge is like a Jedi forging a Light Saber -- a unique expression of the creator's emotional reaction to the world around him or her. A world not only of the visible, but the conceptual -- from the subatomic to the cosmic, from the realm of pure math and geometry to that of ethics and principle. Not "assigning" personality, but honoring Nature's gift of intuition, and bringing that inward emotional recognition to "life", strengthening the bond to cognition, retention, and interpretation.

Concepts expressed as Paper Talker puppets that move and talk on the paper Hinge have the power to break technology's stubborn grip on the learning culture by infusing communication with powers far more human, creative, and productive in mind, language, and spirit than the looming addicting glitter reflected in the digital mirror. They spark energized communication -- no script, theater, or expensive hand puppets are required.

This simple yet powerful art form based in Play has the power to assume a central role in education. The art form has the power to become a central organizing principle, media and methodology of learning and communication found in nature. Call it 'communication currency'.

The "play germ" encased in the hinge-like seed can grow a vast and creative field of learning -- a learning habitat -- an organic world composed of paper, image, and a language of play. A world capable of producing a play-enriched soil that grows a productive quality of thinking and learning that can push back the factory -- the way T-cells fend off a cancerous growth.

Connected intimately to the hand, speech and the brain through Play, The Hinge -- and all the puppet representations that flow from its nature -- is an organic artifact of our humanity.

Puppetools provides the tools and training resources for growing a new learning culture--in classroom, home, and community -- in the soil of Play. Learn more at Playtectonics.org