

# Stars Were Gleaming Shadow Puppets

## Supplies:

- Cardboard box or Shoe box
- Tissue paper or parchment paper
- Scissors or craft knife
- Tape
- Cardstock
- Skewers, pencils, or straws
- Bedside lamp or large flashlight

## Page 1 Puppets:

- Stars = Stars were gleaming
- Sheep = Shepherds
- Men dreaming = Dreaming
- Moon = Night was dark

## Page 2 Puppets:

- Angel = Angels' story
- Ear = Shepherds heard
- Music note = Singing
- Bells = Ringing
- Gift = Christmas bringing

## Page 3 Puppets: (Optional)

- Hill = on the hill
- Earth = Earthward
- Headphones = Hear it

## Page 4 Puppets: (Verse 2)

- Star = Christmas star
- Man = wisemen
- Camel = riding
- Desert = through the desert
- Arrow = Onward going

## Preparation:

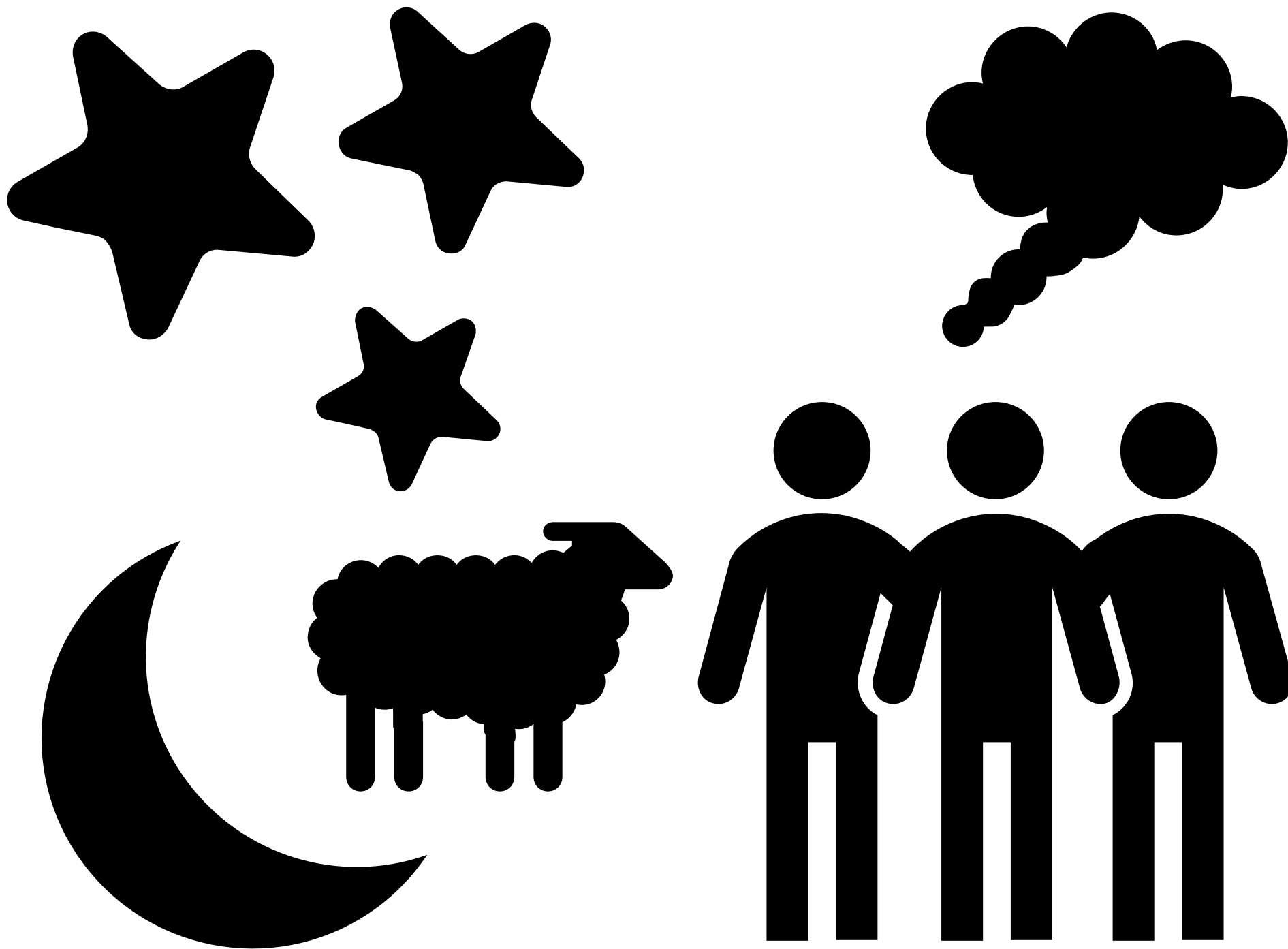
- Prepare a shadow box by cutting out a front window out of a box.
- Cut a hole on each side for the kids to add puppets from the side.
- Add a hole sized just right for your lamp or flashlight to the back. The light will shine through from here to the front of the box.
- Print out the shape pages on a heavy cardstock.
- Cut out each of the shapes and attach a skewer, coffee stirrer, or straw to each for holding and controlling the puppets.

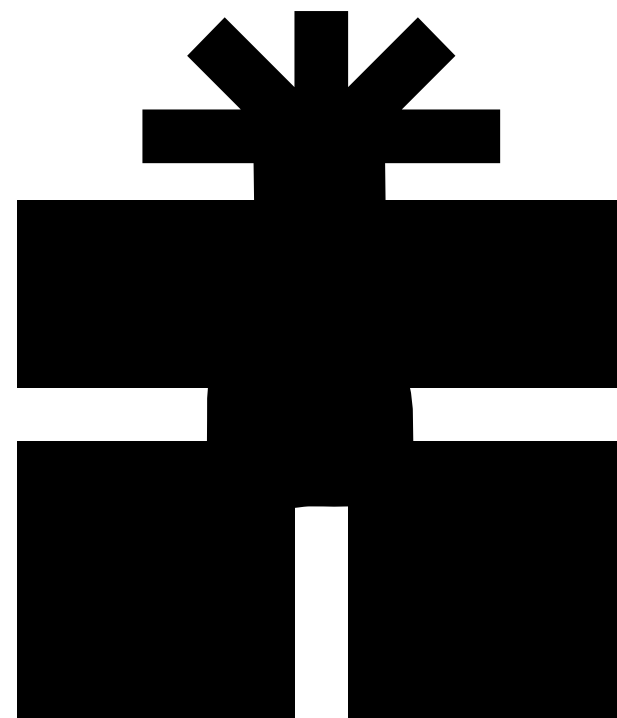
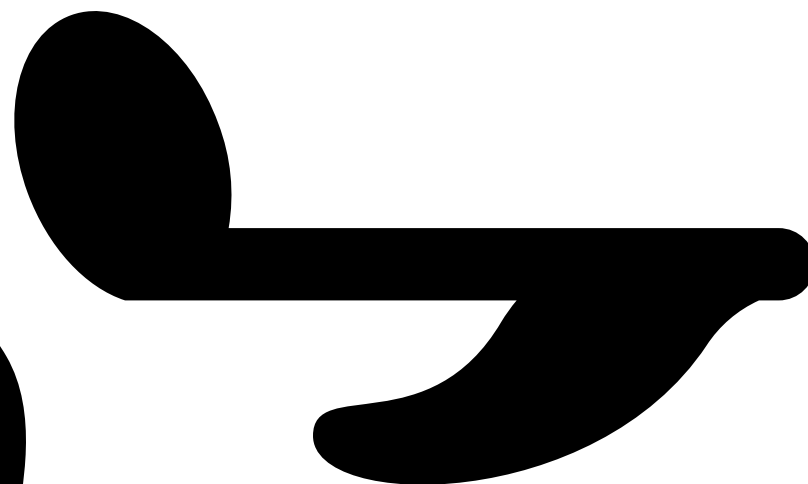
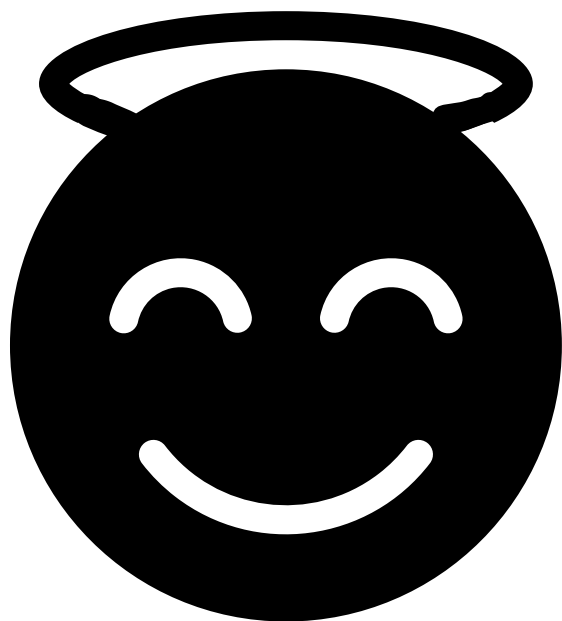
## How to Play:

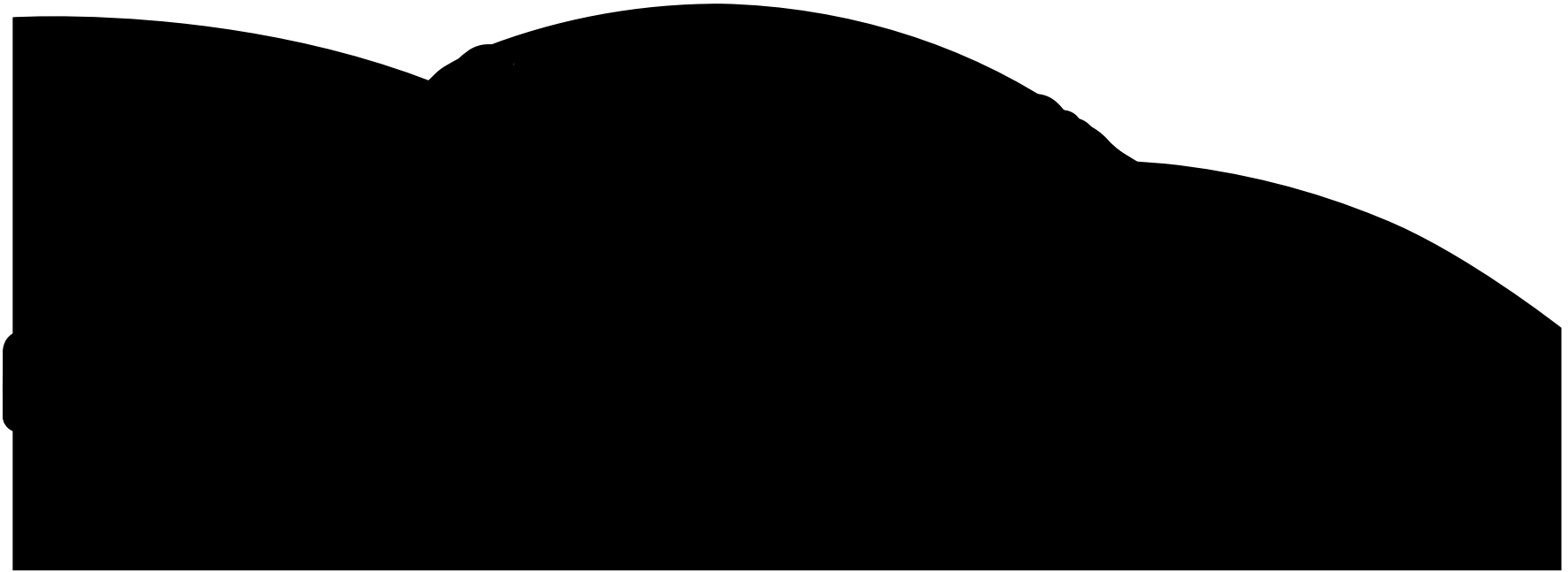
- Sing through Stars Were Gleaming once before getting started.
- Then, invite a child to come up and help you and pass out just the first puppet. Tell them what their puppet represents (stars gleaming) and have them add the puppet when they hear the word!
- Turn on the light and then sing through the first verse. The kids will be LOVE seeing the stars magically appear!
- Now, add 2 more helper and sing through it again, (sheep and shepherd). Then the next 2 (moon and dreaming) puppets.
- Switch helpers and sing through the first full line again!
- Now, switch to the next set of puppets and lines of the song. (Angels, Ear, Hill, Music note, Bells, Earth, Gift, Headphones).

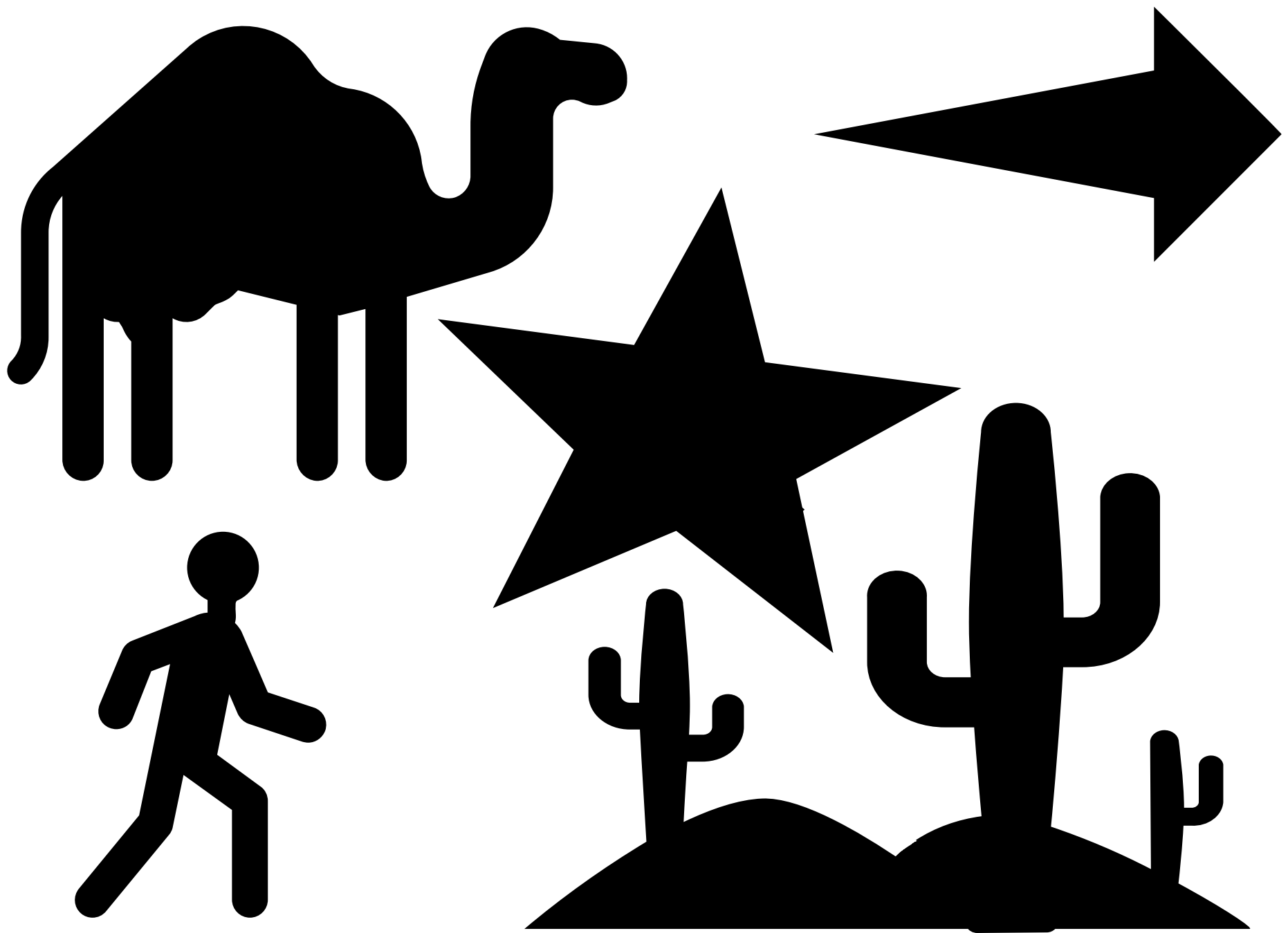
## Extension Activities:

- Let the kids act out the scene of the song (give them a timer like 30 seconds or a minute). Have them narrate what's happening! Then sing through the song again and have the kids listen for the parts from the act!
- Hold up the puppets (outside of the theater) in order. Raise them high when they hear their part of the song!











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