

Zoner and the Drip Study Guide

Objectives

This study guide will emphasize the lessons taught in the *Zoner and the Drip* puppet show by the Great Arizona Puppet Theater and demonstrate how those lessons can satisfy Arizona Common Core Standards. Students will walk away with more knowledge of the importance of conserving water in the desert, how students can save water at home, and how some desert plants and animals survive in the desert. By using this study guide **parents and teachers** can reinforce these lessons. Students will answer questions about what happened in the show, do activities to reenact the action in the show, repeat what they can do at home to save water, and do some coloring activities as well as a puppet making activity.

Arizona Common Core Curriculum

Reading Literature, and Speaking and Listening Standards:

K.RL.3. With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story. (Pre and post show discussion, talking points, and coloring activity)

1.RL.3. Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details. (Pre and post show discussion, discussion topics)

K. SL. 2. Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood. (Post-show discussion)

1. SL. 2. Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media. (Post-show discussion)

2. SL. 2. Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media. (Post-show discussion, coloring activity)

Life Science Standard:

K.3.PO 1. Identify some plants and animals that exist in the local environment (puppet show, coloring activity)

Earth and Space Science Standards:

1.6.PO 3. Identify common uses (e.g., construction, decoration) of basic Earth materials (i.e., rocks, water, soil) - (ex. watering plants, using water to wash cars). (Puppet show, Post-show discussion, talking points)

1.6.PO 5. Identify ways to conserve natural resources (e.g., reduce, reuse, recycle, find alternatives). (Post-show discussion, discussion topics, coloring activity)

The Story

Zoner and the Drip is about a newcomer to Arizona. Zoner is not used to the climate and doesn't understand that some things need to change now that he lives in a desert. He makes lots of bad choices while using water, including leaving his faucet running. From that running faucet, out pops Drip, a drop of water who is upset that Zoner is wasting so much water. Drip takes Zoner on a tour of the desert. He meets a rapping Saguaro Cactus, a bouncy Kangaroo Rat, and a very sick Mesquite Tree. Zoner learns from these desert plant and animals how they have all learned to adapt to survive in the desert. Drip then takes Zoner back home where he learns how to save water and adapt to his new desert home.

The Characters

Zoner

Drip

Saguaro Cactus

Kangaroo Rat

Mesquite Tree

Discussion Topics for Before the Show

- Tell your students a brief description of what the show is about using the summary above. Don't give too much away, but discuss the main idea of the story.
- Talk about what it means to be a good audience member (i.e. being quiet, listening, sitting throughout the whole show, applauding after the end, etc.)
- Ask your students if they think that saving water is important and how they could potentially do that. Don't worry if you're students get anything right or wrong. This is just to develop a baseline and see how their minds may change after seeing the puppet show.

Discussion Topics for After the Show

- Discuss each plant or animal from the show and ask the students for one to two facts that they learned about each (this is also usually started in the post-show discussion with the puppeteer).
- Discuss some of the ways that Zoner wasted water. Although this is covered in the post-show with the puppeteer, you can further this conversation by asking if your students shared any of those bad habits that Zoner had. Are those things that they can change now? What can they do to change their water wasting habits?
- Ask students again if they think it's important to save water and why.
- What are some of the easiest ways to save water at home? Remember what Zoner said: "All you have to do is think about how you use water, and try to use less."
- What kind of climate do we live in? What makes it "dry"?
- How did the various plants and animals survive in the desert without a lot of rain? They each had a special talent that allowed them to survive. Are there any other plants or animals who have a special talent to survive? Perhaps make a list of desert plants and animals your class can think of and research how they each survive in the desert without a lot of water.

Vocabulary and Songs

Conserve	Seeds
Adapt	Saguaro Cactus
Dry	Mesquite Tree
Desert	Groundwater
Save	Less and More
Evaporate	Kangaroo Rat

<p>When you're brushin' your teeth, When you're brushin' your teeth, There's no need to let water run down the sink.</p> <p>When you're washin' your car, When you're washin' your car, There's no need to let water run very far.</p> <p>When you water your lawn, When you water your lawn, Do it late in the evening or early dawn.</p>	<p>A cactus is plant that has changed, His desert home is dry so he rearranged. He stores and protects every drop of rain, And he does all of this and he doesn't have a brain</p> <p>So if a plant, Can save water, Then so can I Because I live in the desert, In the desert it is dry.</p> <p>A kangaroo rat has special needs, Its body makes water from little seeds. Its body makes water so it never needs to drink Well, I'll always need water, but it makes me think</p> <p>That if a plant, Can save water, Then so can I Because I live in the desert, In the desert it is dry.</p> <p>Early people living in this land, Had to get along and understand, The value of this place where we now dwell Protect and love the desert and use it well</p> <p>And if they, Could save water, Then so must I Because we live in the desert, In the desert it is dry. In the desert it is dry. In the desert it is dry!</p>
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Coloring and Activity Book

Objectives and Activity: Print out the next section for your students (beginning on the following page). They can color the pictures and by doing so in order they will review the progression of the story of *Zoner and the Drip*. Students will also answer questions about what happened in the show, how Zoner wasted water, how they can save water, and learn more about the various plants and animals that live in the desert.

Make Your Own Zoner and Drip Puppets

Objectives: Students will make their own Zoner and Drip paper bag puppets. These puppets can be used in various classroom activities and to review what Zoner and Drip talked about in the puppet show.

Materials:

- Printed copies of the paper cut outs found at the very end of this packet
- Markers or Crayons
- Scissors
- Paper bags (like lunch bags)
- Glue

Activity:

If possible, make an example of these two puppets in advance for your students of what the puppets will look like once they have finished. Students will first color their Drip and Zoner puppet on paper using either markers or crayons. Once they have finished, have them cut out the body and top of the head of their paper bag puppet. There should be two pieces for each puppet (a drawing is shown on the paper bag puppet sheet). Then, have students glue the head onto the top part of the paper bag, and the body of the puppet on the bottom half. These two pieces should overlap so that when the bag is closed there is no gap between the head and the body.

Once the glue has dried, students can be divided into pairs of small groups to review some of the lessons Drip taught Zoner in the puppet show. For example, one student can use their Drip puppet to say to another: "Zoner, you shouldn't use so much water." The student with the Zoner puppet can say, "But how?" Drip then could respond with any of the easy ways they learned to save water, such as: "It's easy. Just don't let the faucet run when you brush your teeth."

There are many wonderful ways you can use these puppets in your class, and once the lesson plan is over, students will love taking their own puppets home!



There are two ways Zoner wasted water while watering his plant. Can you remember them?

1. _____

2. _____



How many bugs did Zoner flush down the toilet? _____

What else did Zoner flush? _____

What could Zoner have used instead of the toilet? _____



What time of day did Zoner water his lawn? _____

What time of day should you water your lawn? _____

You can use a _____ instead of a hose to clean your driveway.



Where does the Saguaro Cactus keep the water that he saves up when it rains?

He told us that the desert is _____.



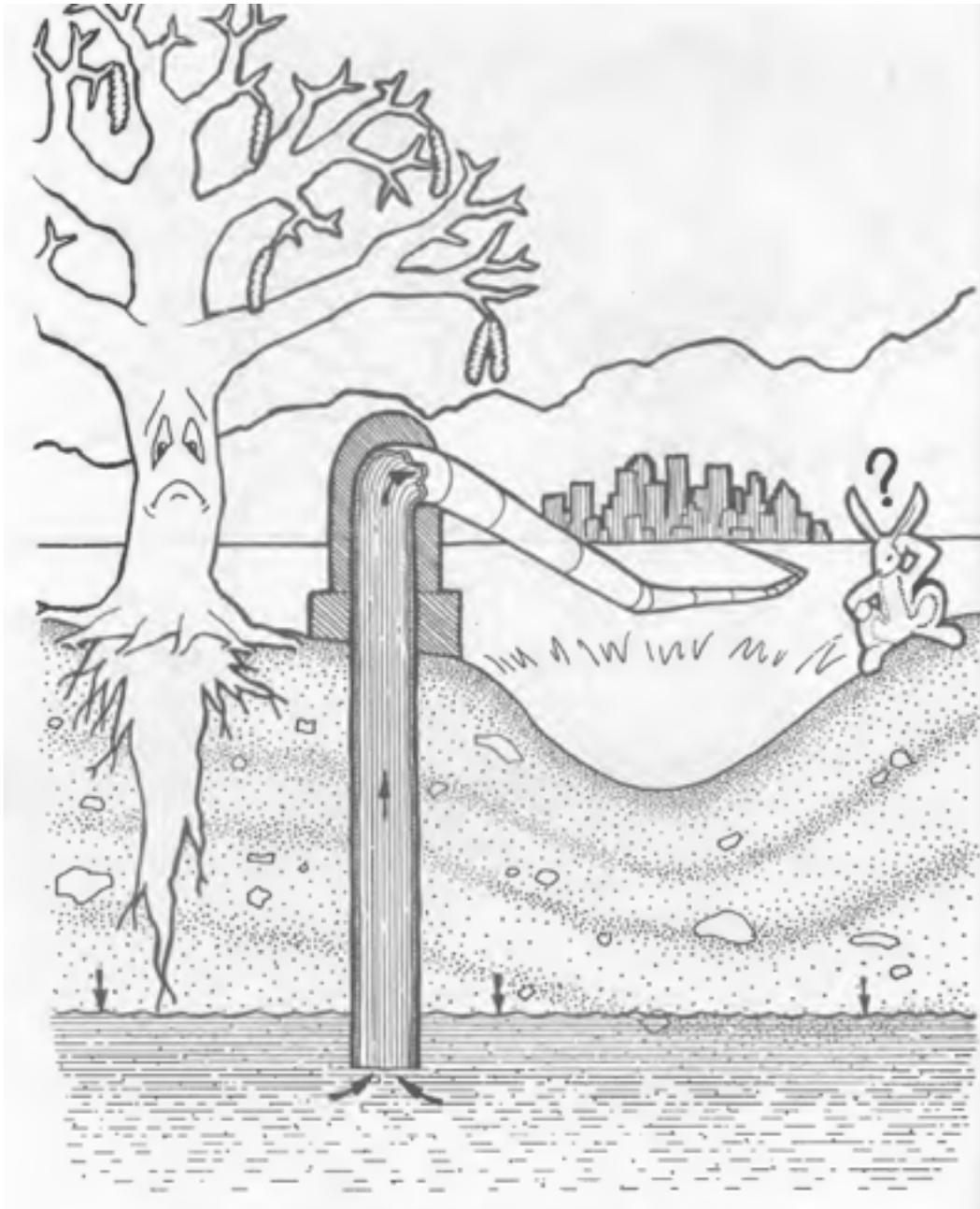
This is a Kanga _____ R _____

She eats _____ instead of drinking water.



The Mesquite tree uses her extra-long _____ P _____ Root to get to the _____ G _____ Water down below.

People and animals used to go to the Watering _____ L _____ to get their water.



Use the following three words to fill in the blanks.

PIPE

PUMP

WELL

Modern people today use a _____ that goes down under the ground to collect groundwater. A _____ goes under the ground and a _____ sends the water up to the surface.



Zoner is saving water by not letting the water _____ U _____ when he brushes his teeth.

What is another way you can save water at home?



What is Zoner using to keep his soapy water in? _____

When you're washing a car, just use the hose to give it a quick rinse.



Animals Adapt to the Desert

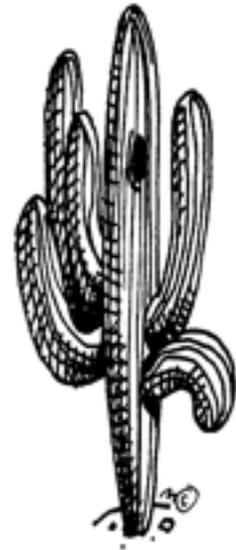
We live in a desert. Very little rain falls here.

Desert plants and animals have learned to adapt to little or no water.

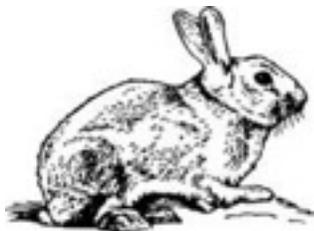
Plants

Cactus - have thick stems to store their water. The thorny spines protect them from being eaten by animals.

Mesquite Trees - have a long tap root that can reach down to water that is deep in the soil.



Animals



Mule Deer and Javelina - conserve water and energy by looking for water and food when the sun begins to set and the desert air cools. On their walk to the water hole, they eat plants for food and water.

Jack Rabbits - use their large thin ears to help keep them cool. Their ears are very thin and the blood circulating through them is warm. When the desert breezes blow, the blood is cooled and returned to the body. Because jack rabbits have this "cooling system," they don't need to drink a lot of water to stay cool.

Kangaroo Rat - is a desert animal that can make most of the water it needs from the flower seeds it eats. Its body makes water from the fats found in the seeds. The seeds they don't eat right away, they store in the ground. Sometimes these seeds create new plants.

Gila Monsters - spend the hottest part of the day resting in the shade or in their underground home. They look for food early in the morning. They get food and water from their prey (small animals they eat).



Describe how your plant or animal has learned to live on little or no water.

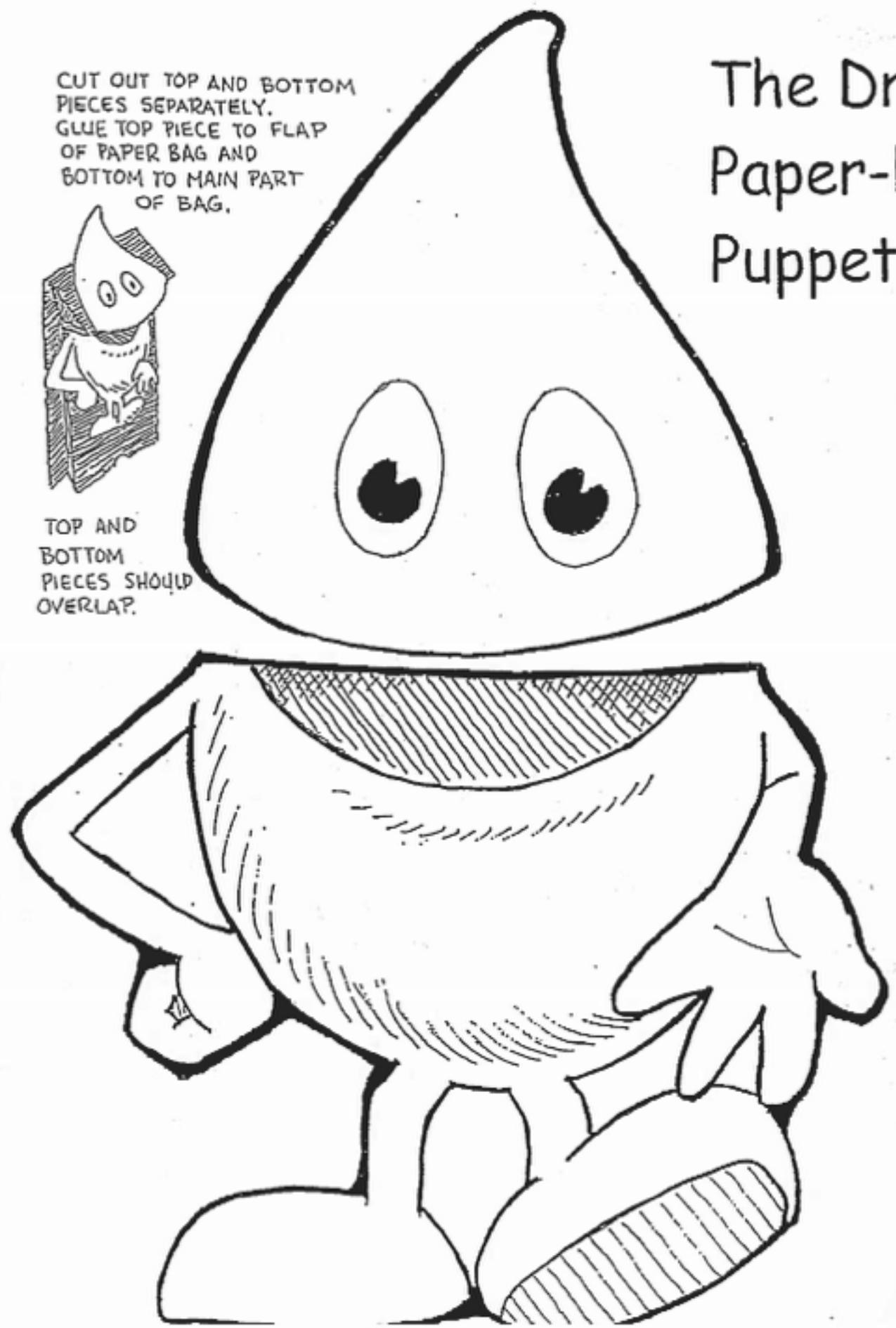
Draw a picture of a plant or animal that has adapted to the desert environment.

CUT OUT TOP AND BOTTOM
PIECES SEPARATELY.
GLUE TOP PIECE TO FLAP
OF PAPER BAG AND
BOTTOM TO MAIN PART
OF BAG.

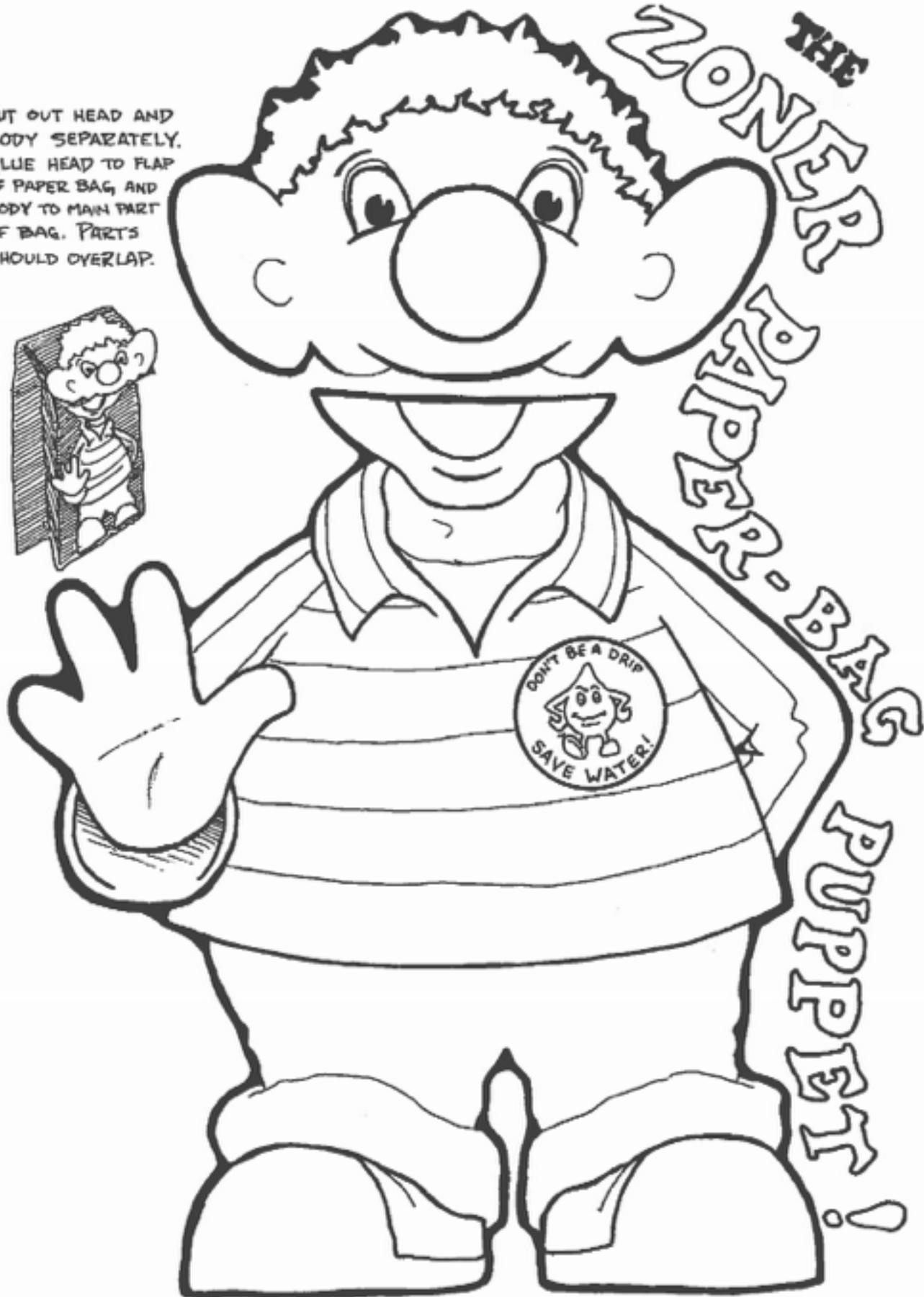


TOP AND
BOTTOM
PIECES SHOULD
OVERLAP.

The Drip Paper-bag Puppet



CUT OUT HEAD AND BODY SEPARATELY. GLUE HEAD TO FLAP OF PAPER BAG AND BODY TO MAIN PART OF BAG. PARTS SHOULD OVERLAP.



THE ZONER PAPER-BAG PUPPET!

References

Arizona Department of Education:

<http://www.azed.gov>

Great Arizona Puppet Theater:

<http://www.azpuppets.org>

Please send any thoughts or appreciation letters to The Great Arizona Puppet Theater at:

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We Love Hearing from You and Your Students!

Zoner and the Drip was originally developed by The Great Arizona Puppet Theater in association with the cities of Chandler and Mesa and the town of Gilbert.

The coloring book that has been adapted in this study guide was originally developed by The Great Arizona Puppet Theater in cooperation with the City of Phoenix Water Services Department and was originally designed by Richard Hardy. Recent changes and adaptations were made by Aubrey Watkins with the Great Arizona Puppet Theater.