

COWHERD & WEAVER GIRL – IDEAS FOR PERFORMANCE

1. Hat for ox costume



Some costume stores or party-favor stores sell hats with horns, but students will enjoy making one on their own for the ox character in the story. Use newspaper to shape the curved horns for papier-mâché treatment. Paint them once dry, and poke the horns through holes in an old fabric hat (or fasten to a helmet-type hat).

2. Magpie bridge



The story of Chinese Valentine's Day ends with Cowherd and Weaver Girl meeting once a year by way of a magpie bridge over the Milky Way river. Students can create colorful bird images and fasten them to blue fabric or paper for the lovers' reunion.

3. Altair and Vega

Every year, the two stars of Altair and Vega are closest together on the seventh day of the seventh lunar month (late summer). The mythology behind Chinese Valentine's Day is based on these stars. At the end of the play, the performers for Cowherd and Weaver Girl can hold up cardboard stars wrapped in foil or decorated with glitter when they meet at the magpie bridge. Star-shaped balloons are another idea for this curtain-closing scene.

