



# Stop Motion Animation

LESSON 6

STOP MOTION ANIMATION

Creating a stop motion animation movie requires a lot of patience and creativity. In order to achieve the illusion of animation, each frame has to be carefully setup and precisely filmed. This process is tedious and time-consuming; however, when properly done, can create an outstanding movie effect.



Your goal is to produce a stop motion animation movie. Your movie should be approximately 30 seconds in length. You can animate any school-appropriate object. Some ideas include M&Ms, action figures, cars, or string.

## PROJECT CHECKLIST

**Make sure you complete all project requirements by using the following checklist.**

### PRE-PRODUCTION

- ✓ Brainstorm ideas on what you can animate.
  - Print out your brainstorm to give to your teacher later.
- ✓ Brainstorm ideas on how you can animate it.
  - Print out your brainstorm to give to your teacher later.
- ✓ Develop a Mind Map to organize the scene.
  - Print out your mind map to give to your teacher later.

### VIDEO QUALITY

- ✓ Break down the animation movements into small “frames”.
  - There should be 3 to 5 frames for each second of the finished movie.
  - Your finished movie should be approximately 30 seconds.
  - This means that you need to film from 90 to 150 frames of animation.
  - Your final movie will look choppier if you use fewer frames per second.
  - However, if you use a lot of frames per second, you will have a lot more work.
  - Find a happy medium (which is why I recommend 3 – 5 frames per second).
- ✓ Shoot approximately 1 second of video for each frame. Note: The one-second length will be edited-down later.
- ✓ Avoid changes in the background that will deter from the animation effect.

### SOUND QUALITY

- ✓ Remove the audio from all captured video.
  - There will be too much noise in the room to use any recorded sound.
- ✓ Add music to make the movie more interesting.
- ✓ Add appropriate sound effects or voice-overs if desired.

### **FINAL MOVIE QUALITY**

- ✓ Edit the captured video so that each frame is approximately 0.2 seconds.
- ✓ Drag each frame onto the timeline to create the movie.
- ✓ Review the movie and make adjustments to ease the “choppy effect” of the film.

### **POST-PRODUCTION**

- Watch your movie for any mistakes.
- Make any final edits your group decides upon.
- When it's time to make it a movie. You should know how by now!