

Text, Image & Story

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High School Art Lessons

Art Challenge 1: Creative Text



Throughout the ages, civilization has depended on writing systems to share information. Letters can be decorated, decorative, and even become works of art themselves! In the next slides you will see images of artwork and artists who use text in their artwork. As you look and research these artists, think about what words they choose, why, and what message they are conveying. Think about what visual, artistic choices they make in terms of font, size, color, etc. Think about where and how they show their work to others!

Examples of Text in Art Around the World

Illuminated Letter with Celtic designs / Islamic Calligraphy in Al-Aqsa Mosque / Chinese Calligraphy Art by Ka-ye Chan



Barbara Kruger

<https://www.nga.gov/education/teachers/lessons-activities/modern-art/text-art.html>



Robert Indiana

<http://robertindiana.com/works/love-2/>



Jenny Holzer

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/jenny-holzer-1307>



Ben Eine <https://mymodernmet.com/text-art-masters/>



Click on the link below for more inspiration!

It demonstrates the use of markers, paint, colored pencils, calligraphy pens, and more!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbHW1kHiGNM>

Find your own inspiration & create your own artwork using text

1. Look around your house for interesting letters. Check magazines, newspapers, food packaging, book covers, t-shirts, etc. IF you are allowed, cut them out and glue them in a notebook or on a poster for inspiration. If you cannot, try tracing or sketching them in your notebook on on a paper or poster.
2. Brainstorm and sketch a variety of artistic typeface or font.
3. Then create a work of art that focuses on your name, initials, or a word you find meaningful! You can include images or keep it all text. It's your choice!
 - Try highlighters, crayons, differently shaped paint brushes.
 - Try holding two or three different colored writing utensils in your hand while you write!
 - Try **thick lines**, Try thin lines
 - Try wavy lines, OR *CURLY LINES*
 - **Bold Lines** or *Elegant Lines*
 - Fancy Cursive OR Playful Text
 - **Give your letters personality!**
4. If you're feeling really motivated, design the whole alphabet!

**GOOD LUCK
&
ENJOY!**

Art Challenge 2: Scroll Art



What is a hand scroll?



“Japanese paintings come in a variety of formats, including [large screens](#) used to partition a room, hanging scrolls that are displayed against a wall, and bound books and albums. The illustrated [handscroll](#), or *emaki*, has traditionally been a format that is particularly suited for narrative painting. Like a book, a handscroll is an intimate object that is held in the hands and is ideally viewed by only a few people at a time. Composed of sheets of paper or silk joined horizontally and rolled around a dowel, handscrolls are unfurled one segment at a time, in sections about two feet long.”

https://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/jilh/hd_jilh.htm



Check out this work of art for inspiration-
Illustrated Legends of the Kitano Tenjin Shrine

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/45428>



Here is a contemporary artist who may inspire you-
Takashi Murakami

<https://www.bostondesignguide.com/blog/events/takashi-murakami-exhibition-mfa-boston>

727-272, 2004

- These works are examples of 'hanging scrolls'. Multiple scrolls are hung side by side to create a full image in Takashi Murakami's contemporary scroll paintings.
- <https://www.artsy.net/artwork/takashi-murakami-727-272>



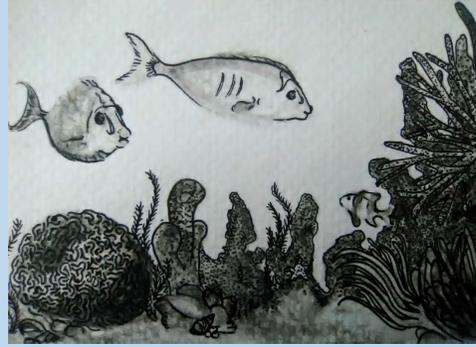
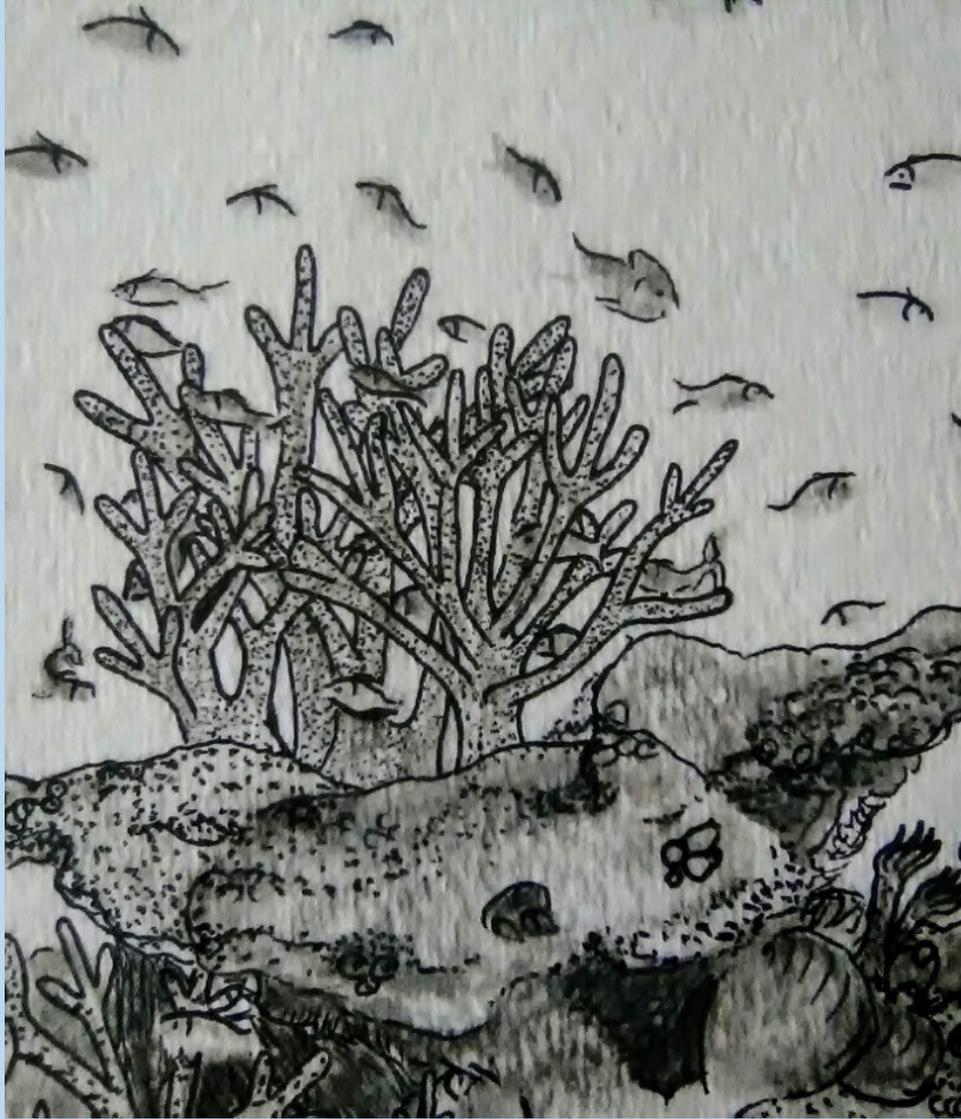
For this Scroll project, we are going to be experimenting with wet media.

- You can use watercolors as I've shown here. →
OR
- You can use a variety of other interesting materials to paint with, such as coffee, grape juice, or water and ink! I have made some examples and put them on the following slides.



These paintings were made with
coffee and grape juice!

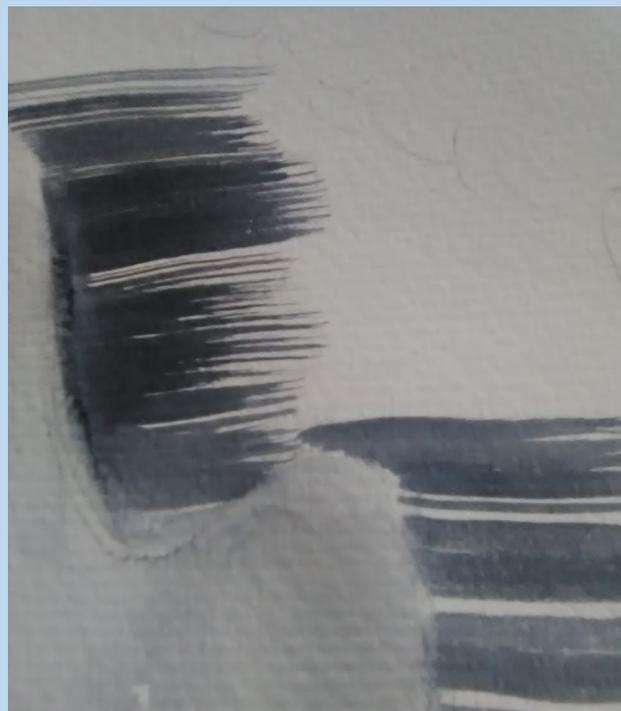




I made these with a gel pen and a wet Q-tip!

See anything can be used to make art if you are creative!

What do you have that you can use?



- **Be prepared!** Have all your tools ready.
- **Be creative!** Experiment with different kinds of brushstrokes and even paintbrushes. What else could you use to make marks, besides a paintbrush? A toothbrush? A feather? A blade of grass?
- **Be experimental!** Try different amounts of water with the ink/paint.
- **Be purposeful!** Think about your imagery! I chose the Niagara River because it is about 3 blocks from my apartment! I enjoy going to the park and watching the water flow. I included the Falls as well even though it's farther away than my scroll makes it look. In art we can alter reality!

Your art challenge is to create a narrative scroll painting.



You will create a painting that tells a story and when it is dry roll it up. Then your work and story will be revealed as it is unrolled little by little! The paper can be cut and taped together (on the back!) to create a long, narrow, roll-able scroll!



Brainstorm ideas and then lightly sketch your story on your paper or papers. Try to be loose with your painting. It should flow just like your story and the scroll.

Example: www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UV2gOgBAzU



See my final narrative painting on the next slide and hopefully you will have all of the information and inspiration you need to create your own. Remember to share your work with your art teacher, family, and friends.



I actually did this painting on three panels, taped them together, and rolled them up to create a scroll. It shows the story of a day I went for a walk along the Niagara river and ended up at Niagara Falls. It shows the beginning, middle, and end of story. What story will you paint?

**GOOD LUCK
&
ENJOY!**



Art Challenge #3: Photojournalism

Telling stories with photos

<https://mymodernmet.com/photojournalism-history/>

<https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-powerful-moments-photojournalism-2018>

Stories are unfolding around all all of the time

Photography

- Photography is an artistic tool used to document these things. This is called documentary photography, or photojournalism.



Photography is about capturing moments and presenting them artistically.



Photography is about noticing moments of beauty and preserving them.



Photography can present the truth, but that truth can also be altered or presented in a specific way.



Reality changes depending on the point of view the photographer and viewer take.

Dorothea Lange

- Dorothea Lange is known for her photography that focused mostly on women and children during the Dust Bowl, a period during the 1930s when drought prevented the growth of crops on the prairie leading to huge dust storms and poverty for the farmers and their families.
- What do you imagine life was like for these people?
- Choose a person in the photo and imagine how they would tell their story. Would it be different than the others?





Alfred Eisenstaedt

V-J Kiss in Times Square. New York City. 1945.

This is one of the most famous photographs in American history. Upon return from World War Two, the story of this sailor and nurse kissing was preserved frozen in time by the photographer.

What kind of moments do you think should be preserved?

Alfred Eisenstaedt

- *VP-elect Lyndon Johnson chatting with President-elect John F. Kennedy and Jackie Kennedy at the president's inaugural ball. 1961*
- Documentary photography often ends up in magazines and newspapers like this one did, in LIFE magazine.
- How do you think the meaning of this photo changed over time?
- What story does each person have to tell?



Tasneem Alsultan



Photo by:
Tasneem Alsultan-for the
New York Times, 2017

Saudi Arabian women
legally allowed to drive
for first time since 1957.

Kim Kyung-Hoon



The story this photographer tells is the plight of Maria Mesa and her children run from tear gas at the U.S./Mexico border.



Photo by:
Ivor Prickett,
2017

This photo
tells the story
of a time at a
festival in
Mosul after
Iraqi
government
declares
victory over
ISIS.

<https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-powerful-moments-photojournalism-2018>

Think about Composition

- Rule of Thirds- This compositional concept suggests that the eyes and mind are pleased by an image whose focal points exist where the image is divided in thirds. To use this theory, imagine a tic-tac-toe board over your image and see if it lines up!
- <https://learnprophotography.com/rule-of-thirds/>





Think about Lighting, Color, & Filters:

- Look at the way lighting, colors, and filters can change the mood of the photograph.



- These are the same photograph. Saturation of color can make it look like a bright sunny day while desaturation of color can make it look like a storm is coming.
- Explore various filters and tools to format the photo in a way that helps tell your story.

In this project, you will be viewing your part of the world, from your own unique perspective and presenting the story you want to share in photographs with accompanying text that helps tell your story. I don't mean what is literally shown, but what story you are telling through your photographs.

Photojournalism

In the future, this time we are going through will be considered history. The changes, COVID-19 has brought to our everyday lives are important and worth documenting.

Your Art Challenge:

Your

Create a photojournalism project including 3-5 photos and a written description about what the story your images tell.



Feel free to experiment with filters, cropping, and any other effect that might enhance your work!



Be sure to share your artwork with your art teacher, family, and friends.

**GOOD LUCK
&
ENJOY!**

Art Challenge #4: Narrative Panels

Register Art

- Throughout history, objects have been able to tell stories.
- How do you think objects can tell stories?
- One way is through registers which consist of horizontal levels in a work arranged on top of each other and usually separated by lines.
- Check out the story on this Greek vase.

- <https://www.metmuseum.org/blogs/metkids/2017/greeks-vs-amazons>





Egyptian wall paintings are another example of using registers to tell a story! These paintings would be placed on the walls of tombs to tell the story of the deceased.

<http://betterwithart.com/its-all-hieroglyphics-to-me/>

Medieval Art

- The time between the fall of Rome and the Renaissance is known as the Medieval Period.
- Most people were illiterate and depended on artwork to learn cultural histories and mythologies.



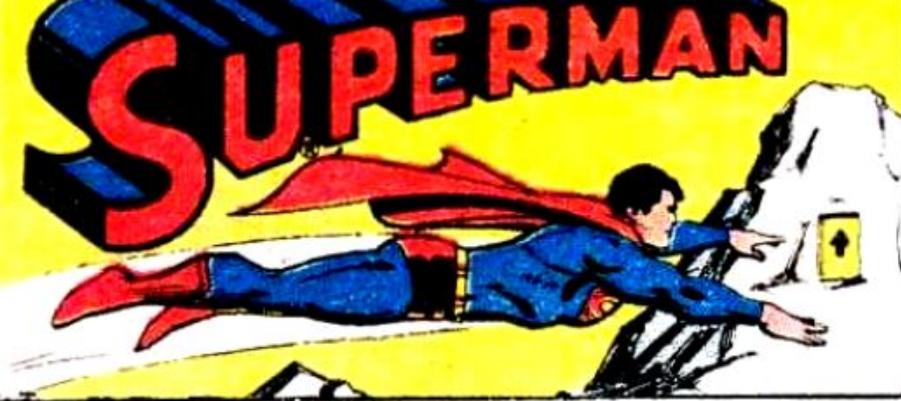
The Sarcophagus of Junius Bassus. Treasury of St Peter's, Vatican City

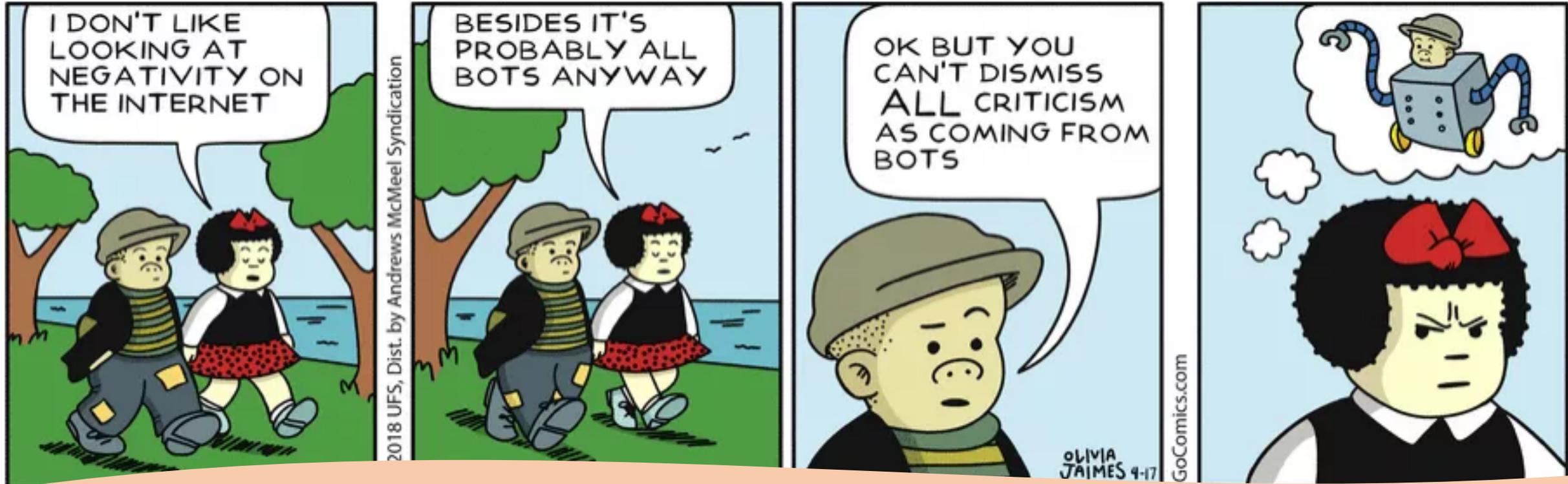
<http://www.all-art.org/history124.html>

Different parts
of the story are
shown in
different
panels of the
artwork!



Can you think of anywhere
the register narrative format is
used today?





The register format is still used today!

- From the comic, *Nancy*, by Ernie Bushmiller
- This particular work was done by Olivia Jaimes
- <https://www.comicsbeat.com/this-new-nancy-strip-is-lit-and-its-got-people-on-the-internet-going-crazy/>

Now it's your
Turn!
Art Challenge:
Tell a funny
story about
something that
happened to
you while
quarantined!



What story will you tell?



What imagery will you use to tell it?



Who are your characters?



What is the beginning, middle and end of your story?



How can color, facial expressions, word bubbles, etc. help enhance your story?



Remember to share your work with your art teacher, family and friends!

Here's mine! It's based on a true story...



**GOOD LUCK
&
ENJOY!**

Art Challenge #5: Animated Art with Flipbooks



Early Animation

How did it
work?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RxJOw5O0h8o>



Animated Flipbooks

Explore how rapidly moving images create the illusion of movement by making a flip book!

Hint! Instead of a lightbox, you can use a window, or even a glass or plastic jar or container with a flashlight shining through it!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Un-BdBSOGKY>



What do you need?

- Paper
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Coloring tools,
if desired

Helpful Hints!

- A pack of sticky notes or index cards can be used to have a stack of same-sized paper from the start!
- Markers sometimes bleed through paper. You may want to use colored pencils or crayons if you want to add color.

Your art challenge is to create a flip book that tells a story of someone who did something worth telling!

With at least 20 pieces of paper, Index cards and sticky notes stack them and staple or paperclip them together!

Who will your story be about? What did they do? Why is it a story worth telling?

How will you show action in your story from start to finish? Plan ahead and get drawing and animating!

Be sure to share your flipbook with your art teacher, family, and friends.

GOOD LUCK

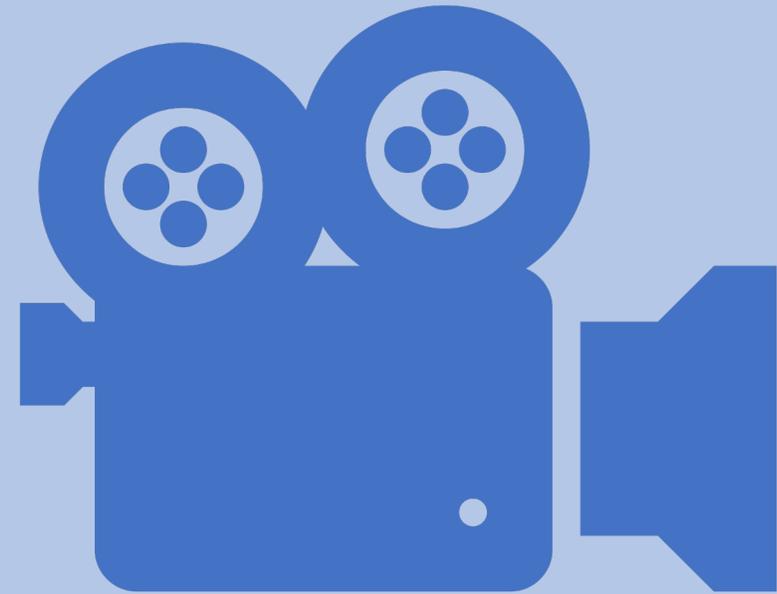
&

ENJOY!

Art Challenge #6: Stop Motion Animation

Narrative Art : Unit 6

Catherine Walsh



Stop Motion has been a movie-making tool for over 100 years!

- King Kong (1933)
- Gumby (1955)
- Rankin Bass Holiday Specials (1960)
- Wallace and Gromit (1989)
- Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)
- Coraline (2009)
- The Little Prince (2016)



How does it work?

- Like the flip books we made, stop motion is made of many still images layered together to create the illusion of movement.
- The key difference is that instead of drawings, 3 dimensional objects are used to tell the story.
- Take a look at this video!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DFzjP6PbnU





Check out the touching story told in this stop motion animation!
www.youtube.com/watch?v=VBps1lvCyj0

“Lost and Found”

- This short film was considered for an Oscar! It was only 7 minutes but it took several people to make!
- Take a look at all the effort that goes into making a project like that!
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=henHHho1GS4>



Check out these additional sources & do your own research!

<https://stopmotionmagazine.com/history-stop-motion-nutshell/>

<https://tinkerlab.com/easy-stop-motion-animation-kids/>

<https://www.shortoftheweek.com/channels/stop-motion/>

<https://www.mykidstime.com/things-to-do/10-handiest-apps-stop-motion-animation/>

<https://www.cateater.com/>

Now it's Your Turn!

- Puppets, toys, cut paper, household objects and drawings can all be used to make stop motion.
- Choose anything that seems like a fun challenge!
- Don't be overwhelmed by what you just saw. Everyone has to start somewhere! This project can be as simple or complex as you want. The most important part is to try something new!

How do I start?

ART CHALLENGE #6: Create a stop motion animation

- Decide on characters and what you will use to represent them.
- Create a story or a cycle of movement to use, could be as simple as a ball rolling across the screen or as complex as a retelling of your favorite story.

1. Arrange objects

2. Take a photo

3. Move things slightly

4. Take another photo

5. Continue until the end of your story.

Next:

Upload all your photos to Windows Movie Maker, or the movie making program of your choice!

You can even use PowerPoint or Google Slides and set the transition timer to about 0.25 seconds! It will appear that the image is moving when you play the slide show!

Be sure to share your stop motion animation with your art teacher, family and friends!

GOOD LUCK

&

ENJOY!