

The Art of Animation!

Have you ever wondered how your favorite animated films get made? The process of animating has changed a lot over the years, originally it started with an artist making a series of drawings that depict small changes from the first drawing to the last. When the drawings were flipped through quickly, the artist could see motion. This is how animated shows and movies were created! The longer the show or movie, the more drawings were required to create it. The link below will take you to a short YouTube video about the origins of Disney animation. You will be able to see teams of artists working on the original Disney movie, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. It took over 250,000 individual drawings to create the movie!

Resources: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2ORkIrHUbg>

Assignment: Think of something you would like to animate, it can be anything that shows change over time. Examples include a flower blooming, the sun setting, ice cream melting, the possibilities are endless!

In the first square, draw your subject as you want it to start. In the last square, draw your subject as you want it to look at the end of your animation. As you move left to right from square to square, make small changes to your drawings that show change. If you are drawing the sun setting think about where the sun has to “move” on your paper. When the sun sets, it sinks down lower on the horizon, so you have to draw the sun moving down further in each square. Once you have finished your drawings in each square, add color with whatever material you choose. You can keep your animation as is, or you can cut out your squares and staple them together to create your own animated flip book!

Kindergarten - 1st grade: After you choose your subject, have an adult help you by tracing out 3 squares in a row on a piece of paper. Animate your subject by making small changes to your drawings in each square to slowly change it from your first drawing to your last!

2nd - 3rd grade: After you choose your subject, trace out 3-5 squares on a piece of paper. Animate your subject by making small changes to your drawings in each square to slowly change it from your first drawing to your last!

4th - 5th grade: After you choose your subject, trace out 6-8 squares on a piece of paper. If you need to, you can split your squares between two pieces of paper. Animate your subject by making small changes to your drawings in each square to slowly change it from your first drawing to your last!