

Teacher's Guide for APPLESEEDS: Animation

May/June 2008

This teaching guide was prepared by Gail Hennessey who taught social studies at Harpursville Central School in New York State for 33 years. She writes often for children's publications and is the author of six books for teachers and students. In 1988, she was named Outstanding Elementary Social Studies Classroom Teacher of the Year from the New York State Council for the Social Studies and also named Outstanding Elementary Social Studies Teacher of the Year by the National Council for the Social Studies. Check out her helpful Web site for teachers at www.gailhennessey.com

Objectives:

To learn more about how animation is done

To learn how animation can be used in areas other than for making movies

To learn about a career in animation

Animation Explained by William J .Joel pages 2-5

Read the article and answer the questions below.

Possible Vocabulary Words:

animatus, persistence, exaggeration

1. Animals, like movies, are actually made of lots of _____ pictures. (still)
 2. Explain what "persistence of vision" is. (looking at an image and then closing the eyes and still seeing the image you stared at)
 3. Explain how an animator makes a ball look like it is bouncing and what is this technique called? (draws a ball and then a ball flattened called "squash and stretch")
- Great interactive website to learn about animation: <http://www.cartoonster.com/>

Tokyo Television Can be Good Enough to Eat by Jenny Desmond Walters on pages 6-9

Possible Vocabulary Words: anpan, dorayaki, uncoordinated

1. How was Anapanman born? (star falls to earth and lands in the bakery causing the bread baking in the oven to come to life)
 2. Who is Anapanman's enemy? (Kaikinman and he is bacteria)
 3. Who is Doraemon and what is his purpose? (catlike robot sent from the future to help a 10 year old boy)
- Think of a mistake you have made. Did someone come to help you or did you fix the problem yourself?
 - If you could have an *Everywhere Door* to allow you to travel anywhere in an instant, where would you like to go and why?
 - Which character do you like the best and why?
 - Draw a picture of one of the cartoon characters mentioned in the reading. Write three facts about the character learned from the reading.
 - Check out this site: http://www.cnn.com/2008/WORLD/asiapcf/03/19/japan.cartoon.ap/index.html?section=cnn_latest Doraemon, the blue and white robot cat, has been given a government posi-

tion. In March, 2008, Doraemon was appointed "anime ambassador" to promote animation and the Japanese culture with people around the world.

Animating Our World by Christine Graf pages 10-12

Possible Vocabulary Words: thaumatrope, celluloid

Fact or Opinion:

1. A cave in Spain has a drawing of a bull with eight legs. (F)
2. The best examples of cave paintings are found in the country of France. (O)
3. A movie that was only a few minutes in length would be boring. (O)
4. An ancient Egyptian artist drew two wrestlers having a match using 15 different pictures of the scene. (F)
5. A thaumatrope invented in the 1820s must have been difficult to use. (O)
6. Using celluloid clear film was easier than using paper to animate pictures. (F)
7. The first full length film was *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. (F)
8. *Toy Story* was a better movie than *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. (O)

• Check out the cave paintings of Lascaux at this site:

<http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/arcnat/lascaux/en/>

• What is a Thaumatrope?

<http://courses.ncssm.edu/gallery/collections/toys/html/exhibit06.htm>

Walt Disney and the Nine Old Men by Damian Fagan on page 14-17

Possible Vocabulary Words: stern, EPCOT,

Read the article and fill the answers below:

1. The first name for Mickey Mouse was_____.(Mortimer) Why did he change the name?(wife thought Mortimer was too odd a name)
 2. What didn't Walt Disney have as a boy?(toys or games) How do you think this might have helped developed his interest in drawing? (way to develop his imagination, to have fun, etc.)
 3. Name two other early movies of Walt Disney other than *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*? (Pinocchio, Bambi, Fantasia)
- Walt Disney created a world of the future called EPCOT. Pretend you are writing about life in the future. What are 4 things that will be different 50 years from now. Draw/color an invention which will be in future homes.

"It's Kind of fun to do the impossible."

• Read more quotes from Walt Disney to discuss at this site:http://www.justdisney.com/walt_disney/quotes/

Hayao Miyazaki, The Man who Likes to Draw Pictures by Kate Falvey on pages 18-20

Possible Vocabulary Words: influenced, enchanted, harmony, gallant, complex

Have partners read the article on Hayao Miyazaki. Have the students create a television interview with one student being the interviewer and the other Hayao. Have three questions to ask during the interview from information learned in the reading.

Surprising Uses of Animation by Brianna Caplan Sayre on pages 21-23

After reading the article, have students create a graphic organizer listing information learned from the reading: Write two facts learned for each use

	USES of ANIMATION	
1.		1.
2.		2.
1.	1.	
2.	2.	

What a Character by William J. Joel on pages 24-25 and Jun Falkenstein, Animator by Crhis Eboch on pages 26-27

Possible Vocabulary Words: pose sheet, tweaking, skinning, rigging,

After reading *What a Character*, place the following steps in proper sequence:

1. Rigging and skinning
2. Pose sheets
3. Lot of drawings
4. Modeling

(Answers: 3,2,4,1)

- If you could ask Jun Falkenstein a question, what would it be?
- If you could be an animator, what types of characters would you like to draw (science fiction, animals, people, objects, etc.) Explain your answer.
- Pretend to be an animator and create a character.

Special Effects: Yoda pages 31-33

- Read the article with a partner and write a summary of how Yoda was created. Include at least 4 steps/facts from the reading. Have students exchange their summaries with two other students to get a peer review. Edit the summary and encourage students to volunteer to read their summary to the class.

Additional Resources:

- Learn about animation and make a flip book at this site: <http://home.att.net/~RTRUSCIO/FLIPBOOK.htm>
- What is anima-
tion? http://www.actf.com.au/learning_centre/school_resources/teaching_kits/ani/units/ani_tk.htm