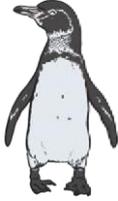


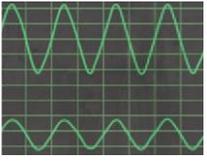
FULL STEAM AHEAD, Europe!

UK's Programming Club: Guide to Stop Motion Animation

There are many different options or approaches to making stop motion animation. Choose which is best for you or which software, hardware and materials you may have access to.

	<p>Plot or Story</p> <p>First try to decide what your animation is going to be about. What is the basic idea? Will you tell a story with a beginning and end or something more random? Maybe just create the effect of something moving, like an everyday object?</p>
	<p>Material for Animating</p> <p>Decide which materials you are going to use for your animation. Ideas of materials that could be used include: modelling clay, cut-out paper or card, pictures cut from old magazines or toy figures.</p> <p>Think about your backdrop and set. Backdrops could be made on card or inside a box. You could use a simple, but effective, piece of material or colourful paper. Will you need any other props or objects in your scene?</p>
	<p>Plan a Storyboard</p> <p>Decide in advance roughly what will happen in your animation. Use a storyboard to plan the scenes but remember each scene will probably need several animation frames. Use sketches and notes to make a good plan.</p>
	<p>Creating Your Set, Props and Characters</p> <p>Draw, build or create anything you need for your animation. Use the Storyboard Activity Sheet to make sure you have everything needed before you start working on the animation.</p>
	<p>Choose a Camera</p> <p>Find out what type of camera you are able to use from your teacher. You may have a choice - in which case think about which will work best for capturing your images.</p>
	<p>The Animation</p> <p>Once you have everything set up, take a few photos as initial frames before you start making any movements or adjustments. When you are ready to start moving your character or object, only adjust by a few millimetres each time and aim to take 10-12 frames for each second of animation.</p>

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Finishing Touches

Download your images into the stop motion animation software and use the editing tools to complete your animation. You could also add titles or a soundtrack. Remember to save your work.