

migrant
literacies



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

The contents of this publication
are the sole responsibility
of the author and can in no way
be taken to reflect the views
of the European Commission.

Stop Motion – The basics of storytelling

by Mediawijs

It is always a huge search for digital tools that can be used by students at a beginner level. But luckily Stop Motion Studio App is such an application. It is a smartphone app and video tool in one to make your own stop motion videos. We used this tool in a workshop to learn how to make pictures with a tablet, creating and telling a story and to share reflections on the things we did during class.





GENERAL DESCRIPTION

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| SHORT SUMMARY | The participants get to know possibilities to express themselves in pictures and in stop motion videos. In this workshop they explore the use of the camera and are writing a story with different characters. |
| TARGET GROUP | Size: N/A Age: adults Literacy level: A2 Digital literacy requirements: intermediate, use of tablets |
| TIME | 6 hours |
| FORM | Inclusion in the regular classes. |
| SPACE | Classroom with tables, video projector, newspapers, paper and pencils . |
| TOPICS COVERED | Storytelling, visual language . |
| TOOLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tablets• Stop Motion Studio• WIFI |
| OBJECTIVES | Explore possibilities to tell stories and to express o.s. with visual language. |
| LINGUISTIC SKILLS | Improvement of daily language and discovering new words, social skills, reading skills, listening skills. |
| DIGITAL/ MEDIA LITERACY REFERENCE | Working with basic digital apps such as the camera. Exploring the possibilities to express o.s. with visual language. |

STEP BY STEP DESCRIPTION

STEP 1

Time

40 min.

Objective

Acquaintance + introduction to stop motion.

Material

- Projector

Literacy skills

Social skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills, exercise vocabulary.

Activity description

Acquaintance:

- Let the students introduce themselves briefly.
- Ask them what their favorite dish is.
- Then ask them to explain to the others how to make that dish. They can use whatever they want: words, drawings, pictures, dancing...
Let them tell / show to the others.
- At the end: show them a stop motion picture of your favorite dish, e.g.: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yLeXvU9yQTE>

STEP 2

Time

20 min.

Objective

Insight in possibilities of stop motion.

Material

- Projector

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills.

Activity description

Reflection about stop motion:

- Ask them if they know anything about stop motion?
- Do they see the use of telling stories with pictures?
- What do you think is necessary to create such a movie? (camera, actors, story ...)
- Show some extra stop motion possibilities to broaden their idea of stop motion. (E.g.: <https://youtu.be/K7P-BGIXu5k> and <https://youtu.be/MPNlg-cgLgE>)
- Tell them they are going to make such a movie themselves later today.

STEP 3

Time

20 min.

Objective

Acquaintance with the tablet.

Material

- 1 tablet per 3 students

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills, exercise vocabulary.

Activity description

Acquaintance with the tablet

- Put the tablet on together with the students. Let them discover the device by asking questions as:
 - How do you know if the tablet is charged?
 - What are all these icons?
 - How to open an app?
 - How to shut off the device?
 - How to put it back on?
 - Where is the camera app?
 - Can you take a picture?
 - ...
- At the end: let them find a way to stabilize the camera (at chest height for the next exercise)

STEP 4

Time

25 min.

Objective

Exploration of the camera app + exploration of basic camera techniques.

Material

- Overview on paper of what they have to put in the 6 photos.

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills, social skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills, exercise vocabulary.

Activity description

Exploring the camera app

- Divide the class in groups of 3 or 4 students.
- Ask them to make 6 shots about 1 person in the group
 - Picture 1 = shot of his face.
 - Picture 2 = shot of something he/she doesn't like.
 - Picture 3 = shot of the person with sad face.
 - Picture 4 = shot of something he/she likes.
 - Picture 5 = shot of the person smiling.
 - Picture 6 = shot of the face together with his/her name.
- Let them show it to you. Probably they have made some common mistakes (e.g. wrong frame, some useless material in sight). Point these out.
- Let them create 6 shots of the others in their group as well.

Comments:

When they don't want to show their face, ask them to show thumbs (up/down) instead of faces.

STEP 5

Time

5 min.

Activity description

Reflection:

- You can tell something without using many words.
- Which other uses do you see?
- To communicate with whom?

Objective

Insight in possibilities of stop motion.

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills.

STEP 6

Time

20 min.

Activity description

Further exploration of the camera:

- Ask them to make 3 shots explaining these words:
 - far
 - close by
 - a line
 - an arrow
 - a circle
 - from big to small
 - close-up
 - ...

Objective

Getting used to the camera + feeding visual language skills.

Material

- Tablets

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills, social skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills.

STEP 7

Time

20 min.

Objective

First exploration of telling something emotional with pictures.

Material

- Tablets

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills, social skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills.

Activity description

6 shots and something is happening

- Do some recap: you can use different shots. What does it mean when you see somebody far away? What does it mean when you only see a mouth smiling?
Let them work in groups again.
- The assignment: make a photo montage in a sequence of 6 shots that evokes a MOOD. Choose one of these emotions and represent it visually: frustration / worry / shock / curiosity / loneliness / doubt
Use different shot distances, angles & perspectives.

STEP 8

Time

30 min.

Objective

Exercising basic ICT skills.

Material

- Tablets
- Google Photos
- Padlet

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills.

Activity description

Uploading the material + screen time

- Use tools as Google photos to make an animation of the different photo montages the students have created.
- Then upload these to a common used platform (e.g. Padlet)
- Watch all video clips and enjoy

STEP 9

Time

10 min.

Objective

Introduction in making stop motion movies.

Material

- Stop motion figures and decor (e.g. action figures, Lego, ...).

Literacy skills

Linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills.

Activity description

Introduction: how to make a stop motion video

- Take out lots of stop motion material
- Explain briefly how stop motion works (e.g. by using <https://youtu.be/6xUjRGBXSQ0>).
- Tell them they need to think about:
 - a script (= the story + all characters)
 - camera angles (cf. previous exercises)
 - sound/music

STEP 10

Time

30 min.

Objective

- Creation of a story

Material

- Different cards to write down
- a good title
- actions taking place
- characters involved in the short movie
- decor

Literacy skills

Social skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills, exercise vocabulary.

Activity description

Creating a story

- Form groups and have 1 teacher in each group.
- Let them think about short situations that can be useful to make a short movie about. E.g. A dialogue when buying groceries / a little joke / some explanation of grammar ...
- Use different cards to write down:
 - a good title
 - actions taking place
 - characters involved in the short movie
 - decor

Comments:

This is a difficult exercise. It is important to keep all students involved. If they think it useless to create a story, let them focus on something they think is useful (e.g. explaining grammar).

STEP 11

Time

10 min.

Activity description

Stop Motion Studio

- In small groups the teacher shows what you can do with Stop Motion Studio.

Objective

Exploring the app.

Material

- Tablets
- Stop Motion Studio app

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills.

STEP 12

Time

40 min.

Activity description

Creating the movie

- Build the decor
- Take a picture of every shot
- Adding sound / music

Objective

Creating a short stop motion picture.

Material

- Tablets
- Stop Motion Studio app

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills, social skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills.



STEP 13

Time

30 min.

Objective

Reflection on the creative process.

Material

- Projector

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills, social skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills.

Activity description

Show time + discussion

- Watch all the videos created.
- Let the students reflect: what did they see? What was funny? What is useful?
- Would they use it again? Why (not)?

STEP 14

Time

60 min.

Objective

Making people proud of their work + letting them explain how it works.

Material

- Projector

Literacy skills

Basic digital skills, social skills, linguistic comprehension skills, listening skills, linguistic comprehension skills.

Activity description

Show time in other classes

- Take the students on a tour to show and explain their work to other classes.
 - 6 shot montage presentations
 - 6 shot montage emotion
 - stop motion movie

