

Stop Motion Technique

A Few Video Examples To Complement Task #1.

It is advised that the tutor review the examples in advance to decide if and which ones to show students. All of them are much more demanding work than what we will face; thus, they can also be discarded. Among the materials in the folder for Task #1 are also examples of moving GIF images.

Stop motion is basically the same technique we are using – assembling a film from individual frames. Due to use of a very small number of photos, it would be an overstatement to call it a film. Thus, it is rather a GIF image. Stop motion film and GIF images can both have a disjunctive flow of movement – the movement is not smooth, but glitchy. As we are used to the videos, it might seem clumsy at first, but it is exactly this peculiarity that makes stop motion valuable.

Examples:

Blue Sky Levitations – Stop Motion Choreography

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

Danae McWatt, a member of the Regina Klenjoski Dance Company, uses stop motion technique to make a dancer spin in the air. This example is partly a normal video, but the moments where the dancer jumps and spins in the air are a good example of what can be shown using a moving GIF image. NB! Numerous photos have been used for this purpose.

Her Morning Elegance / Oren Lavie

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_HXUhShhmY

The music video for Oren Lavie's song resembles a moving picture book. It is a two-dimensional representation of a three-dimensional world, where the visual is not drawn but combined of real people and objects. Every movement is a separate photograph, and running all of those photos in succession creates a stop motion film. It is a contradictory example in the context of the School Space Project, however. Here, the three-dimensional world is deliberately abolished, while we should instead be drawing attention to space and three dimensionality.

PROTEIGON

<https://vimeo.com/33480080>

This minimalist, abstract film focuses on a magician's hands as they manipulate simple geometrical objects. It is an enchanting video clip, even though there is no other storyline than the dance of cubicles – transforming, morphing, aligning, shrinking, joining, moments of surprise and fright, and changing of the colours. All the magic is achieved using stop motion technique.