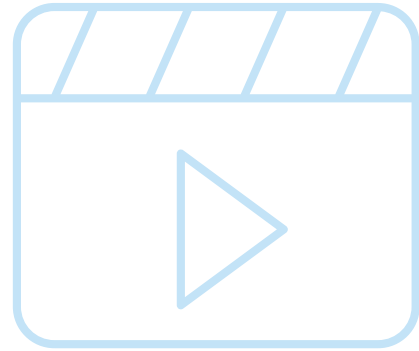


# Stop motion animation



**A step-by-step guide to stop motion animation for beginners to create their own film about Sydney Metro at home.**

**Students explore the stop motion animation process and use Sydney Metro as a context to develop their own story, build sets and characters. Suitable for 7 to 12 year olds.**

## Getting started

### Materials

- Smart phone or iPad/Android device.
- Tripod for smart device.
- Download free stop motion app “Stop Motion Studio” or similar program onto your smart device.
- Art and craft supplies (e.g., coloured paper, cardboard tubes, scissors, tape, pens, pencils, pipe cleaners, egg cartons, stickers, modelling clay, plasticine, craft sticks/dowels, spare buttons, blocks, wool, possibilities are endless...).
- Optional: Toys (such as Lego or figurines) and/or A3 sized cardboard box as your set.

Set aside a fixed location in your room that cannot be easily disturbed.

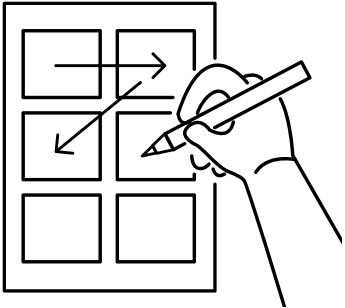
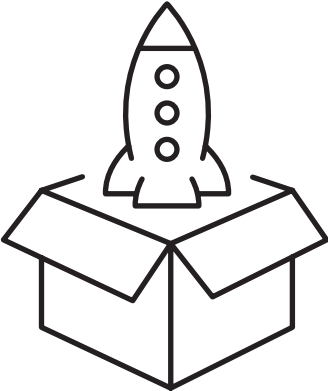
Make sure you have at least two or three hours (or more!).

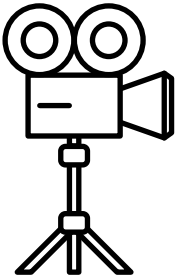
## Your mission

Max and her cousin Hanh are 8 years old and have never heard of Sydney Metro.

Make a stop motion animation film to explain something about Sydney Metro to them.

# A step-by-step guide

<p><b>1 Pick a theme for your story</b></p> <p>Ask your parents for permission and do some online research at <a href="http://sydneymetro.info">sydneymetro.info</a></p> <p>Using the Sydney Metro <a href="#">website</a> conduct an investigation to learn more about the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch an introduction to <a href="#">Sydney Metro video</a>.</li> <li>• Check out the <a href="#">interactive map</a> and click on each of the stations.</li> <li>• Visit <a href="#">‘Behind the fence’</a>.</li> <li>• Check out the <a href="#">video library</a>.</li> </ul> <p> <b>Quick tip</b></p> <p>Get a notebook and pencil and write down at least five things you learn through your investigation about Sydney Metro that you may be able to use as a theme for your story.</p>	<p><b>2 Get inspired</b></p> <p>Here’s a fun online video on how to create your own animation.</p> <p>Watch <a href="#">How To Make Stop Motion Animation</a> (Fran Champagne, 2009. 2 minutes and 56 seconds) or <a href="#">Stop-Motion App Tutorial</a> (Ana Maria Gach 2015, 5 minutes and 39 seconds).</p> <p>This will give you some ideas on how to create your own film.</p> <p>Get permission from a parent/guardian to download the free app “Stop Motion Studio” or similar app on your smart device.</p>	<p><b>3 Develop a storyboard</b></p> <p>Develop a storyboard of ideas that roughly outlines what your story is going to be about. Draw or write your ideas for your storyline and characters on paper. Make sure you consider: What is the story about? Who is the audience? Who are the characters? What is going to happen?</p> 
<p><b>4 Roll up your sleeves and get creative</b></p> <p>Start drawing, modelling, and building your set and characters using arts and craft materials.</p> <p>You can also choose some toys or objects you already have to feature in your story.</p> <p>Remember to keep it simple. Every item you create or use in the film has to be moved around a little by little to be animated.</p> 	<p><b>5 Set up your filming location</b></p> <p>Finding the right spot to film your animation is very important. It can take hours to complete your film.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up your smart device on a tripod to keep it in the same position if you don’t have a tripod find a place to secure your device so it remains steady.</li> <li>• Find a small area of the room that cannot be disturbed as you’ll need to take lots and lots of photos to create your story.</li> <li>• Make sure you have good lighting.</li> <li>• Your background or set can be simple. You could create one inside a box (make sure it has good lighting) or a blank piece of paper or you could build one using craft items or toys.</li> </ul> <p>Now, you’re ready to go!</p> <p> <b>Quick tip</b></p> <p>Don’t move your camera or tripod once you start filming.</p> <p>Make sure your hands are out of the frame.</p> <p>If it’s too fast or slow, adjust the frame timing from 5-8 frames per second.</p>	<p><b>6 Make the title for your film</b></p> <p>You could call your film anything you like. If you are unsure, how about using ‘Sydney Metro’ as the title?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make each letter individually (you can use plasticine, paper or alphabet pieces or Lego).</li> <li>• You can set the timer function or take a photo of each of the letters individually using the red button. The timer function allows your device to automatically take a photo every 5 or 10 seconds. This means that you don’t have to touch your device so you can focus on moving your characters.</li> <li>• Add a new letter and move the letters already in the frame a bit and take a new photo each time or wait for the 5 seconds when the timer is set. Move your objects in very small increments.</li> <li>• Keep your hands away. Once you have moved your object take your hands away before taking the photo so it looks like it has moved on its own.</li> <li>• To see how it looks press play.</li> <li>• If you take photo with your hand in the frame, don’t worry, just go back and delete the image.</li> </ul>

<p><b>7 Lights, camera, action</b></p> <p>Using your storyboard as a guide, organise the background or set for your film. Get everything in position and then starting introducing your story or characters. You can create your own titles or a brief explanation/captions to help tell your story.</p> <p> <b>Quick tip</b></p> <p>It takes 12 frames to generate one second of film! So for one minute of film you'll need at least 720 photos!</p> <p>So it can take hours and hours just to make a two minute video.</p>	<p><b>8 Make your credits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remember to give credit where credit is due.</li> <li>Don't forget to say who created your film.</li> </ul> 	<p><b>9 Have fun and share it with others</b></p> <p>Hooray, you've finished your film.</p> <p>Ask your parent/guardian to save your film and download it. If you like, you can also spend some extra time editing it on your computer.</p> <p>Now it's time to share it with family and friends. Make sure you send us a copy or link of your stop motion film to <a href="mailto:sydneymetroedu@transport.nsw.gov.au">sydneymetroedu@transport.nsw.gov.au</a> so we can see your creation.</p>
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**Film/animation title**

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**My metro story ideas**

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## Set/stage design



## My storyboard

