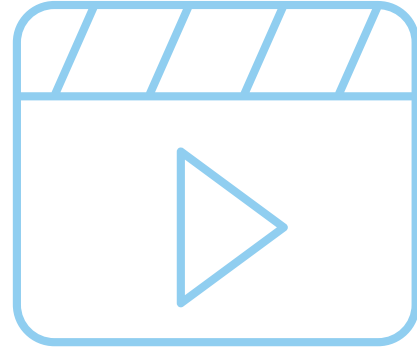


School holiday activity

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.


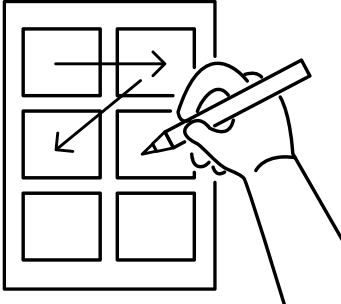
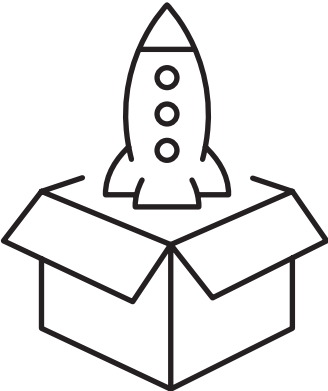

Make sure you have at least two or three hours (or more!).

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>1 Pick a theme for your story</p> <p>Ask your parents for permission and do some online research at sydneymetro.info</p> <p>Using the Sydney Metro website conduct an investigation to learn more about the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch an introduction to Sydney Metro video. • Check out the interactive map and click on each of the stations. • Visit 'Behind the fence'. • Check out the video library. <p> Quick tip</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>2 Get inspired</p> <p>Here's a fun online video on how to create your own animation.</p> <p>Watch How To Make Stop Motion Animation (Fran Champagne, 2009. 2 minutes and 56 seconds) or</p> <p>Stop-Motion App Tutorial (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>3 Develop a storyboard</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>4 Roll up your sleeves and get creative</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>5 Set up your filming location</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"> • 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. • 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. • Make sure you have good lighting. • 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. <p>Now, you're ready to go!</p> <p> Quick tips</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>6 Make the title for your film</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"> • Make each letter individually (you can use plasticine, paper or alphabet pieces or Lego). • 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. • 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. • 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. • To see how it looks press play. • If you take photo with your hand in the frame, don't worry, just go back and delete the image.

7 Lights, camera, action

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.

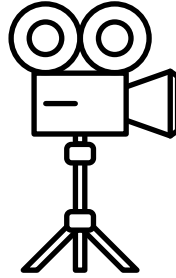
 **Quick tip**

It takes 12 frames to generate one second of film! So for one minute of film you'll need at least 720 photos!

So it can take hours and hours just to make a two minute video.

8 Make your credits

- Remember to give credit where credit is due.
- Don't forget to say who created your film.



9 Have fun and share it with others

Hooray, you've finished your film.

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.

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 sydneymetroedu@transport.nsw.gov.au so we can see your creation.

Film/animation title

My metro story ideas



Set/stage design





My storyboard

