

An animated Christmas

In the run up to Christmas many schools explore Christmas traditions. Why not link these activities to opportunities for animation projects? Pupils can produce 2D or 3D animation depending on resources/time and skills.



A brilliant app to get started with animation without spending any money is iMotion

Another brilliant app is I Can Animate



2D Animation

Draw and cut out characters/props to use

Draw backgrounds and mount on cardboard 'stage' – you can make these from cereal boxes

Research characters on the internet and download images to cut out

Fuzzy felt characters and scenes

3D Animation

Modelling clay to create characters and props

Lego

Dolls house furniture

Found objects – toilet rolls, empty boxes/packets, wool, string, glitter, small decorations etc

Pantomime Time

What are pantomimes?

Discuss the key features of a pantomime

Research key characters in Christmas pantomimes

Choose four characters

Create storyboards and then re-tell a famous pantomime using only these characters

Twas the Night Before Christmas

Read the poem to the class and discuss the things that happen

Talk to the class about funny things that have happened in their house before Christmas:

- 🍷 The turkey didn't cook
- 🍷 It was burned
- 🍷 Someone opened the wrong present
- 🍷 There was a power cut

Either choose one of these scenarios or an aspect from the poem to create an animation.

The best ever Christmas tree

Why do we have Christmas trees?

Which sort of tree do pupils have in their house?

Who decorates it?

Create an animation to show a Christmas tree coming to life

- 🍷 dragging the tree into the house/building it
- 🍷 standing it in a bucket
- 🍷 adding the decorations
- 🍷 turning on the lights



It's a Christmas number one

Discuss with pupils the songs that have been popular at Christmas

Listen together to some of the songs and discuss why they think they have been so popular

Pupils research the different songs and who wrote and performed them

Choose one of the songs and create an animated video to go along with it

It's a snowy day – hurray!

If we are lucky enough to get snow this Christmas, you know that the pupils are going to be super excited. Keep your eye on the weather and when snow is forecast, set up an iPad to record a stop motion animation of the snow falling and gathering!














