

Storyboards are used to capture the essence – the important elements – of a film or television show. In drama they are used to detail what happens in a story, an improvisation, or a script. The art of storyboarding is to be able to reduce a story down to its most important elements – like using bullet points – and these are represented in picture form, with a single image being used for one element per ‘frame’.

This Storyboards Drama Worksheet Pack provides activities that help students to create a variety of storyboards using traditional stories, original stories, script extracts and life stories.

To create a storyboard, students should evaluate and identify the key moments of dramatic action in any story and present these ideas in sequential picture form with brief captions that support the images. Storyboards can be used in three ways: for visual storytelling; for visual story planning; for creating a template for mini movies and film trailers. A film trailer is an advert for a feature film that shows the highlights of the film – the best or most dramatic moments – in an attempt to entice audiences to watch it. With film trailers and mini movies, storyboards should also include suggested camera angles, sound effects, props used and the characters involved in each scene.

This pack contains two different storyboard templates and students can select whichever one suits their specific task. The pack also contains a copy of the [Cinderella](#) story and extracts from two scripts – [Harry Rings](#), [Lord of the Potters](#) and [The Xmas Factor](#) – both published by Arts On The Move.

This drama pack can be used with students at any stage in their drama learning. Although it can be completed in the classroom, it has been created as a distance learning activity. The activities in this pack can be completed in any order.

****Please ensure that your students have enough copies of each [storyboard template](#) to work with plus additional paper, or a drama notebook, for story writing and analysis.****

Any mini movies or ‘film trailers’ produced through working on this pack can be emailed to info@artsonthemove.co.uk. A free play script will be sent to each ‘movie maker’ and all mini movies will be showcased on the Arts On The Move YouTube channel (for children only).

If you have any questions, have suggestions for other drama worksheets, or would like to provide feedback about this resource, please email Arts On The Move info@artsonthemove.co.uk or call 0161 881 0868.

Storyboard Writing Tips

- **Sequence your drawings chronologically:** visualise your entire piece of work, creating a complete representation of what the main events are and in what order they happen.
- **Select key scenes:** create a list of important and specific scenes that link the story together by highlighting the most important parts.
- **Keep illustrations clear and simple:** your pictures should illustrate your captions or, if you're not using any captions, they should be clear and easy to follow.
- **Clarify what is happening in each of the frames:** for every frame (box) in a storyboard, write a short description to ensure that your audiences are fully carried along.
- **Provide additional information:** if you are creating a storyboard for a mini movie or trailer, make sure that you have included information about any camera angles, props, sound effects and character names.
- **Crosscheck the work:** look through the storyboard to make sure that your thoughts are well captured, that your illustrations and captions are clear, and that you've represented your story well.
- **Edit:** tidy up any errors. Make sure your work is the best it can be.

Camera Angles

- Wide angle – for scenes that show large areas.
- Close up – for facial expressions or small details.
- Tracking shots – for characters or objects that are moving.

4. The trailer of your life story!

Using the same methods as above, create a storyboard that is a trailer for your life story – with highlights, achievements, loves, losses, joy and tears, special events, activities and special people. Remember a trailer shows the best bits of the film to encourage audiences to want to see it! If you don't have enough life experiences to fill 6 or 8 frames invent them! Be as imaginative as you like.

- Write down your 6 or 8 life story events or highlights – either real or totally made up;
- Create an image to represent each event for each frame of your storyboard;
- Give each image a caption or title;
- List the characters, setting, props/furniture and camera angle for each image in your storyboard.
- Rewrite your captions/titles to make them more interesting and dramatic;

or

- Write a short piece of dramatic narration for your mini movie trailer that tells your whole life story so far. This will become a voice-over for your mini movie.

Finally, film your mini movie trailer using Lego characters, plasticine models, puppets, fruit and veg models, toys, or anything you want to represent the characters. Decorate sheets of paper or material to create a 'backdrop' or scenery for each frame. Experiment with your phone – or other recording equipment – to change camera angles for the different scenes. Pause filming whilst you change the scenery and bring in new characters and remember to include your dramatic narration or voiceover lines – in a dramatic voice!

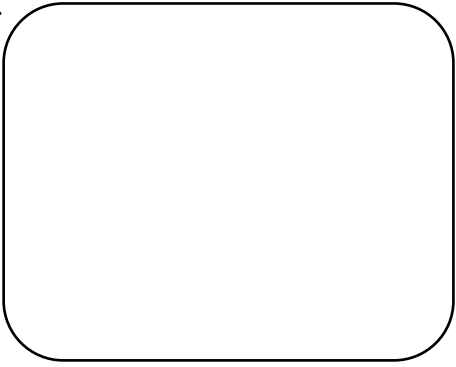
Play back your recording, check that you're happy with it and that it's your best work. Re-record any parts that don't work or that you think could sound or look better.

Send your mini movie trailer to info@artsonthemove.co.uk and you'll receive a free play script and your mini movie trailer will be showcased on the Arts On The Move YouTube channel!

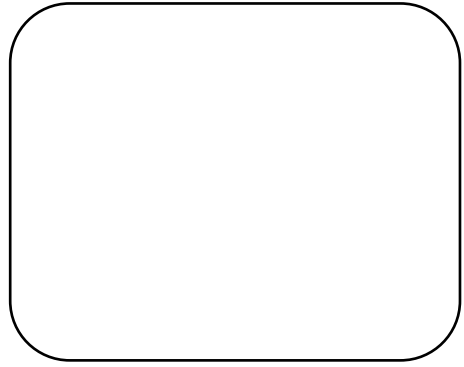
6 Frame Storyboard Template

Your Name _____ Film Title _____

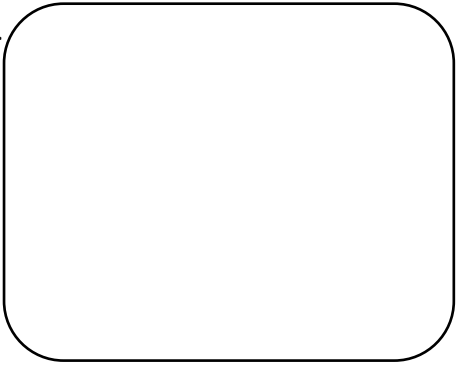
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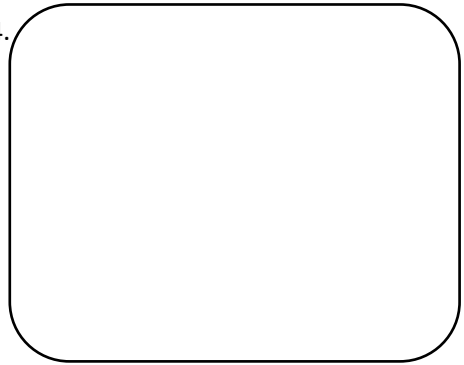
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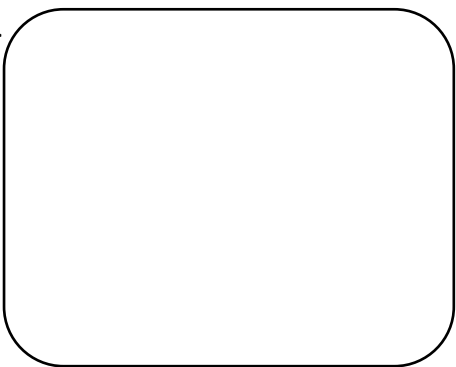
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