

Lights, Camera, MEDIA Literacy!  
Lesson Plan # 20

**Topics:**

**Journal Writing**  
**Ub Iwerks**  
**Claymation**  
**Computer Animation**  
**Animated Production**

**Outcomes:**

Students will follow organizational procedures.  
Students will see, hear, and use applicable vocabulary.  
Students will state contributions by early animators.  
Students will complete a 2-D animated film.

**Materials:**

Writing journals  
Camcorders  
Tripods  
Mini-DV Tape or Memory card  
Computer with iStopMotion (or similar) software  
LCD projector  
Chart paper  
Post-its  
Individual student pocket folders  
Groups' Animated film materials

**HANDOUTS:** **How Animation Got Its Start** (students already have this)  
**Creating a Three-Act Newsies Film** (students already have this)

**DVDs:** *"The Hand Behind the Mouse: The Ub Iwerks Story"*  
*"Plane Crazy"*  
*"Steamboat Willie"*  
Disc 2 **DISNEY TREASURES: ADVENTURES OF OSWALD THE LUCKY RABBIT**

**New Vocabulary:** "Claymation"

## Sequence of Events:

### **I. Journal Writing (15)**

1. Prompt:

**How do you feel about creating an animated film compared to creating a live-action film?**

### **II. Viewing a Documentary about Ub Iwerks (60)**

1. Write the name **UB IWERKS** on the board and ask if anyone has heard of him. Tell students that Ub Iwerks has influenced movie watching experiences possibly more than any one individual, yet few know his name.

2. View the film.

DVD: *"The Hand Behind the Mouse: The Ub Iwerks Story"*

On Disc 2 of *WALT DISNEY TREASURES:*

*THE ADVENTURES OF OSWALD THE LUCKY RABBIT*

3. Allow time for reaction and check answers on the worksheet: "How Animation Got Started." (Students now know the answers to #4 & 5.)

#### **HANDOUT: How Animation Got Started**

4. Show the two early Iwerks/ Disney shorts:

1st Mickey Mouse cartoon: "Plane Crazy" (6:00) 1928

1st sound cartoon: "Steamboat Willie." (7:40) 1928

DVD: *"Plane Crazy" and "Steamboat Willie"*

Disc 2 Menu: The Work of Ub Iwerks

*WALT DISNEY TREASURES:*

*THE ADVENTURES OF OSWALD THE LUCKY RABBIT*

### **III. Clay & Computer Animation (15)**

1. For the answer to #6 on the worksheet, show the following on YouTube.com: **First Claymation Commercial (0:35)**

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pM2OK\\_JaJ9I](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pM2OK_JaJ9I)

*"Unwrapped: The California Raisins"* (3:55)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDN\\_C70xpZ8&NR=1](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qDN_C70xpZ8&NR=1)

2. For the answers to #7 and #8 on the worksheet, show the following on YouTube.com:

*"History of Pixar: Part 1"* (8:35)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1TOD6oV1cnY>

#### **IV. Creating an Animated Film (70)**

1. Refer students to the steps for creating their animated film and direct them to finish their film.

##### **HANDOUT: Creating a Three-Act Newsies Film**

2. Groups work on their productions.
3. If groups finish early, they might film their flip books and turn them into animated films.

#### **V. View Groups' Animated Films (25)**

1. Instruct students to write the title of each student film at the top of individual sheets of paper. As they watch each film, they write "1, 2, 3" as they see each act being shown. They then add a comment regarding each of the three aspects of film.
2. Allow time for class questions and reactions.

#### **VI. Reflection (15)**

1. Direct students to the hanging chart paper labeled:

**What did you learn about Ub Iwerks?**

2. Hand out Post-its on which students write and post.
3. Review the comments on the Post-Its with the class, so students have a sense of what was learned. Make sure to clear up any misconceptions.