



me and my
movie
film-maker's pack



name

hello there

Welcome to **CBBC me and my movie**. This pack gives you tips to help get you started on your film-making journey.

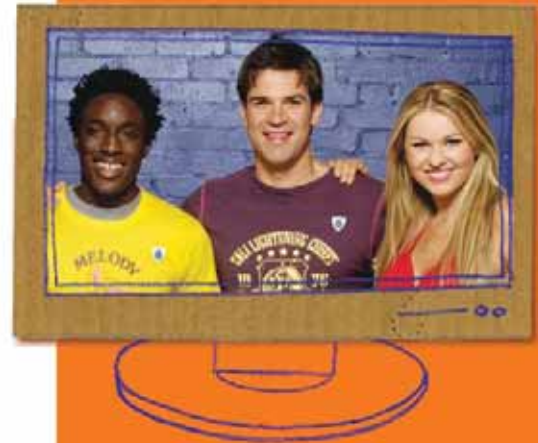
To get you inspired we will be showing you how to make 3 kinds of film:

- **drama**
- **documentary**
- **animation**

Once you've made your short film (no longer than 2 minutes), you can upload it via the **CBBC me and my movie** website for other children to share and rate. The best film could even win a special CBBC award in association with our friends at BAFTA.

Check out page 30 or visit the website for more details bbc.co.uk/cbbc/meandmymovie

Have fun and good luck!

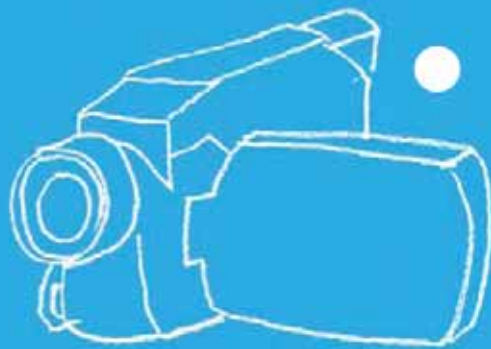




lights camera action!

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 2 | what you need | 18 | how to make an animation |
| 4 | how to make a drama | 21 | what you need |
| 6 | plan your story | 22 | make your character |
| 8 | camera shots | 24 | make your studio |
| 12 | shot sheet | 26 | how to edit your film |
| 13 | filming tips | | |
| 14 | the shoot | | |
| 16 | how to make a documentary | | |

what you need



What you need

- camera or mobile phone camera
- computer (PC or MAC)
- cables to connect your camera to your computer
- battery
- tapes/DVDs



These will help make your film even better

(but not essential!)

- tripod – a stand to keep your camera steady
- microphone/headphones – some cameras have a socket for these
- lights – desk lamps/ torches can help light your film

And if you don't have equipment...

Ask family, friends and teachers if they have stuff you can borrow.

how to make a drama

Dramas are films with made-up stories and actors.
To make a drama you need to write a story.



what's the story?

- keep it simple – maximum 2-3 actors and 2-3 settings
- keep it short – not more than 2 minutes
- decide what type of story you want to tell eg **action**, **spooky**, **romance** or **fantasy**
- think about interesting locations around you eg the cellar in your house for a spooky film
- do you own or could you borrow any costumes eg a super hero outfit?
- what props or objects do you need to tell your story eg a football or a ring?
- never film outside your house or in a public place without a parent or guardian present

plan your story

Type of story?

Character 1 is called _____ played by _____

Character 2 is called _____ played by _____

Character 3 is called _____ played by _____

Location 1 is in _____

Location 2 is in _____

Location 3 is in _____

The time is day or night?

What happens at the start of your film?

What happens next?

What happens at the end?

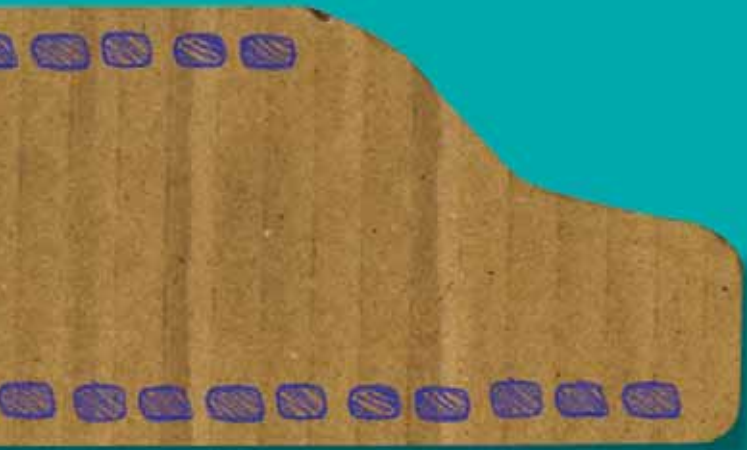
Costumes needed?

Props/objects needed?



camera shots

Think about what you can see through the camera to tell your story. If the camera stayed in the same place all the time this would look really boring. These are different types of shots you can try:



top tip

You can watch other children's films on the **CBBC me and my movie** website. Look out for different types of shots to see when they are used.

[bbc.co.uk/cbbc/
meandmymovie](http://bbc.co.uk/cbbc/meandmymovie)



Long Shot

Usually the first shot to help set the scene as you can see everything.

Mid Shot

Shows character(s) from the waist up. Useful when filming people talking.

Close Up

Good to show detail like an actor's face or a hand holding a water pistol.



Low Angle

Filmed from below with the camera pointing up. Used to make someone look bigger and powerful eg a super hero.



High Angle

Filmed from above with the camera pointing down. Used to make someone look smaller. Good for spooky films when filming the victim!



Point of View

Shot filmed close to the actor so that you see what the actor is seeing.



Tilt

The camera moves up and down. Good for introducing a character.

Pan

The camera moves sideways to follow the action eg someone running away.

shot sheet

Think about what would be the best shots and angles to use to tell your story. List these below.

	Shot Type	Description
eg	Long Shot	Outside of a building to set the scene
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

filming tips

do

- hold the camera steady
- check the sun or lighting is behind the camera – or your film will be dark
- take spare batteries and tapes with you
- hold your microphone close enough so the sound is recorded properly
- avoid background noise like traffic
- check there are no cables trailing on the floor which could cause accidents
- always have someone watching your back while filming so you don't bump into things and others don't bump into you!

don't

- zoom in and out when filming – your film will look awful
- play your film back during the shoot or you may record over it!
- let anything creep into your shot that you don't want, like your hand!
- film near water or in bad weather

most importantly

- don't do any dangerous or high shots
- please be aware that your camera could be a target for theft
- please store the camera away safely

the shoot

You may want to ask friends and family to join your film crew or you could do it all yourself! The main roles are:

Director (D) – this is you! Gives everyone instructions and checks the story is being filmed correctly

Camera operator (CO)

Actors

Sound operator – if using headphones

Assistant



Rehearse

Go to your location to practise acting out the scenes.

Filming

CO sets up camera for the first shot

D checks actors are ready and shouts: “SILENCE ON SET”

CO presses ‘record’ on camera (REC will appear in red on the screen) and shouts: “CAMERA ROLLING”

D shouts: “ACTION!” Actors then count to 3 in their heads (not out loud!) and then start acting

When finished, **D** counts to 3 in their head and then shouts: “CUT!”

CO presses ‘record’ to stop camera recording

You will usually have to film each shot 2 or 3 times to get it right

Think about filming other shots that will help tell your story eg close up on a face



action!!

how to make a documentary

Documentaries are films that tell stories about real things that have happened.

You could make your documentary about:

- a friend or family member with an interesting story
- things you like or don't like
- something you feel strongly about eg recycling
- a holiday or a hobby

Choose a place for filming that has something to do with your story.

Set up your camera on a tripod or table so that you are in shot, or ask a friend to film you. Look straight into the camera and keep your eyes steady.

Think about what else you could film to bring your story to life, including:

Photos – eg holiday snaps (you could also scan these in)

Events – eg a football match

Interviews – with friends, families and teachers

And remember the filming tips (page 13) and different camera shots (page 8) that you can use.

Now you are ready to go and film your documentary!



how to make an animation

Animations are films with drawings or models.

In an animated programme like **Shaun The Sheep** the pictures never really move! You are actually seeing lots of still pictures changing every second which trick your brain into thinking they are moving. It works just like a flip-book.

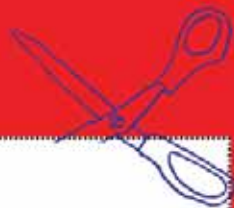
Try making one by following these simple instructions.

Cut out each of the pictures shown and staple them together in the order of the numbers.

Now flip through the book using your thumb and watch as the picture seems to move!







4

3

2

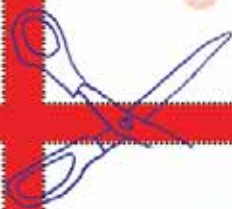
1

8

7

6

5



12

11

10

9

what you need

There are lots of ways to make an animation. You can use drawings, computer graphics or clay models. Here's one idea to get you started.

You will need:

- large sheets of paper
- sticky tack and tape
- coloured modelling clay
- coloured pipe cleaners
- 2-pence coins
- digital camera or animation software (ask your family, friends or school for help)



make your character

Use modelling clay to make your characters – monsters, animals – the choice is yours:

- 1 Twist together 3 pipe cleaners at a time to make the legs, arms and body.
- 2 Cover the pipe cleaners with rolled out modelling clay.
- 3 Leave a bit of pipe cleaner sticking out the ends so you can stick all the bits together.
- 4 Stick 2-pence coins to their legs so they don't fall over!
- 5 Cover the coins in clay so they look like shoes.
- 6 Make your character's head and hands out of modelling clay. Be creative!



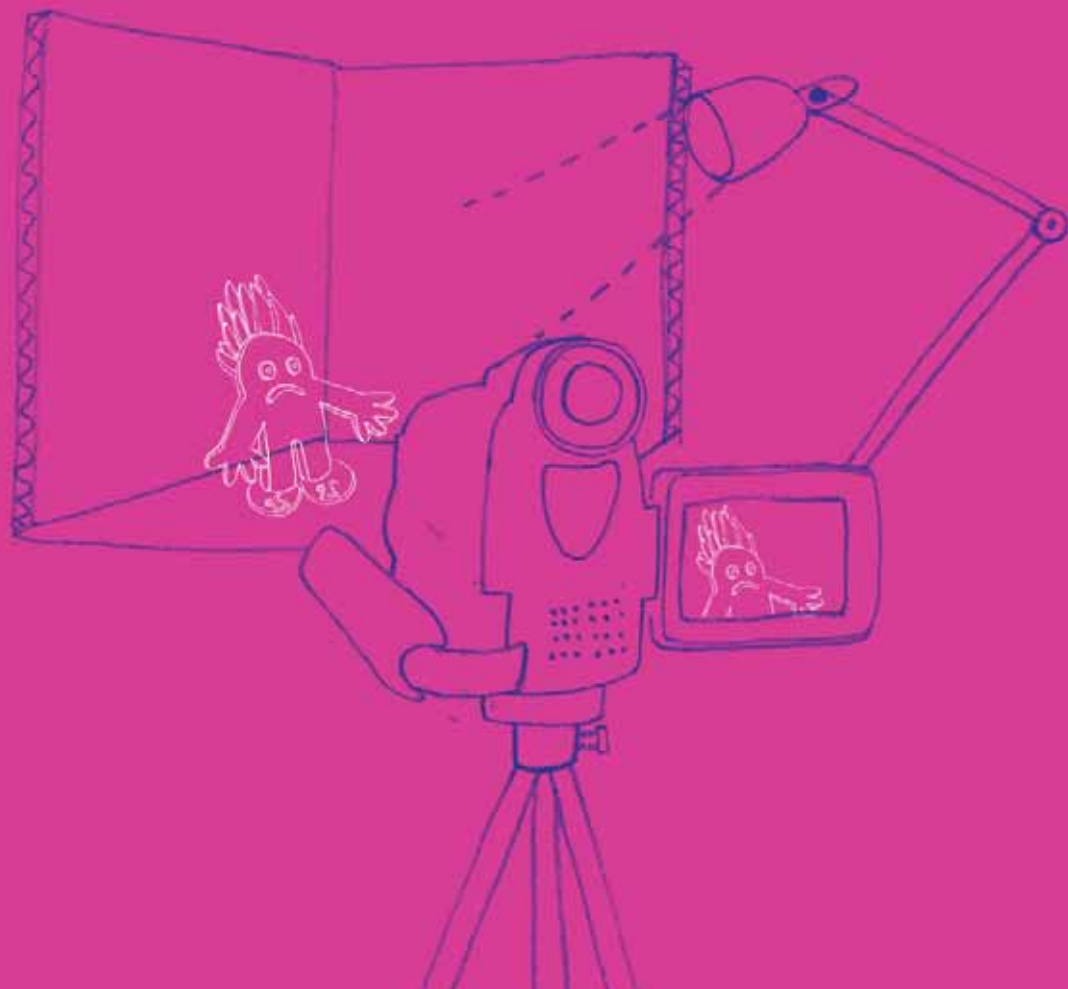


© Aardman 2006

make your studio

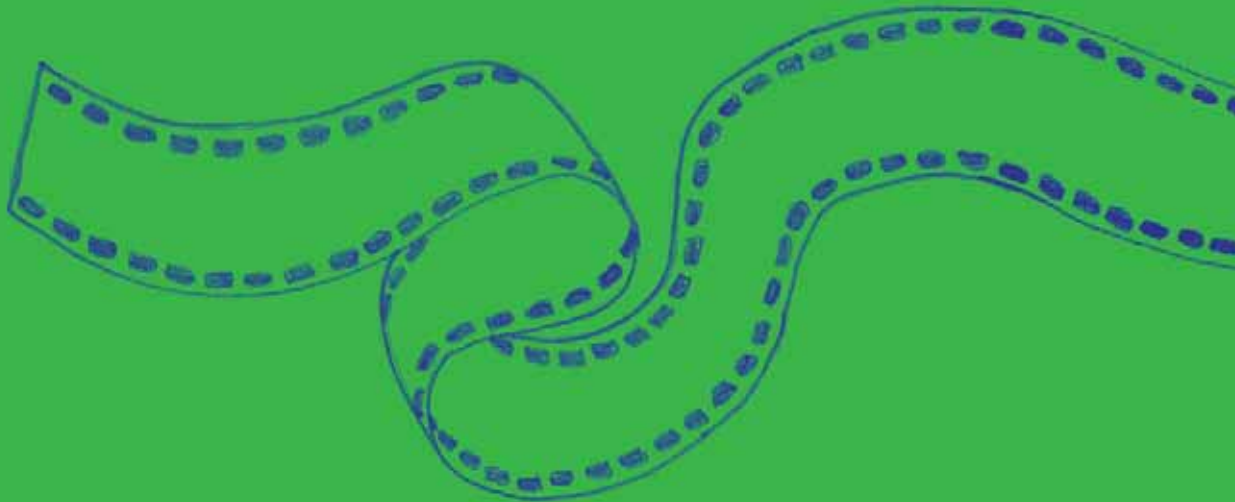
Here's how to create your own mini-film studio:

- 1 Place a table next to a wall and near your computer.
- 2 Draw your background scenery on paper, eg sky, forest or castle.
- 3 Stick the paper on the wall next to your table.
- 4 Stick the feet of your character to the table.
- 5 Put your camera in front and make sure it won't move.
- 6 Close the curtains and use electric lights because sunlight can change.
- 7 Now you are ready to start! If you have animation software, use it. But you can also create great animations with just a digital camera and basic editing software.
- 8 Put your character in position and take a photo. Move your character very slightly and take another photo. Keep doing this until you've got to the end of your story.
- 9 You will then have lots of digital pictures on your camera that you can transfer to your computer for editing.



how to edit your film

Editing is when you choose the best shots to tell your story and remove mistakes. Here is a quick editing guide to help get you started:



- ask an adult to connect your camera to a computer and open up the editing software
- check if you already have editing software on your computer. For PCs click on the **Start** button, then click **All Programs** and then **Accessories**; you may find **Windows Movie Maker** in this folder. For MACs you may find **iMovie** in your **applications** folder
- free computer editing software is also available online – ask your family or friends to help you (more instructions available in the parents'/teachers' pack. See back page for details)

- follow the editing software's steps to copy your clips from your camera to the computer; when finished you should see small pictures of all the different clips you filmed
- continue to follow the editing software's instructions and **help** guide to edit your film. And remember to save your work regularly so that you don't lose it!

If you are making an animation and have taken digital still pictures on your camera then you can follow the previous instructions. But if you used animation software then your images will already be on the computer so you just have to copy them into the editing software.



Here are some tips to remember when following the editing software's instructions:

- **order your story** – drag the clips you want into the storyboard (PC) or clip viewer (MAC) and put them in the right order for your story
- **get cutting** – remove the mistakes from each clip. You'll need to split the clip and delete the section you don't need any more
- **rough cut** – choose the best shots in the storyboard (PC) or clip viewer (MAC) to tell your story eg long shots or close ups
- **fine cut** – you can make shots slightly longer or shorter to make them look smoother





- you can use **special effects** to change the way your film looks, like speeding up clips in your film (see the effects folder in the editing software) or to change the way one clip links to another (see the transitions folder in the editing software). But avoid using too many effects as less is more!
- **sound effects** and **music** can change the way your film feels eg a ticking clock can add suspense. Remember to only use copyright free music – the best way is to record your own music!
- add **titles** at the start of your film (this is the name of your film) and **credits** at the end to show the names of all the film crew and actors

cbbc me and my movie award



in association with BAFTA

If you send your film to us we may upload it to the **CBBC me and my movie** website for others to see. Your film will be entered into the **CBBC me and my movie award, in association with BAFTA**. The shortlisted nominees will be invited to the Children's BAFTA awards ceremony in London in November, with one lucky young film-maker winning a special award.

To enter this competition, your movie must meet all of the competition rules and must be received by 6pm on 6 October 2008.

The rules and details of how to enter are on the **CBBC me and my movie** website.

bbc.co.uk/cbbc/meandmymovie



“Both the immense fun of making the film and the monumental moment of receiving the award made participating in CBBC me and my movie the best thing I have done in my life so far. This is an unmissable competition for all future movie makers!”

Rosalind Peters
Winner, 2007 – **CBBC me and my movie award, in association with BAFTA**

Before you enter your film into the competition, don't forget:

- you must be aged between 6 and 14 years on 6 October 2008 to enter. If you made your film with other people, they should also be between 6 and 14
- your film must not be more than two minutes long. You must give your film a title page at the start
- you must ask for people's permission before filming them
- don't copy other people's ideas, or mention or show any brand names. It's also best if you either write and perform your own music, or visit our website to download music clips
- you can send us your film either through the uploader on our website, or by post, with a signed Permissions Form
- the deadline is 6pm on 6 October 2008. Remember that it could take some time to upload or post your film, so don't leave it to the last minute to enter!
- the judges will be interested in how original and creative you make your film, how well you tell your story, and how well you film and edit
- go to bbc.co.uk/cbbc/meandmymovie and read the full Competition Rules and Frequently Asked Questions with your parent or guardian



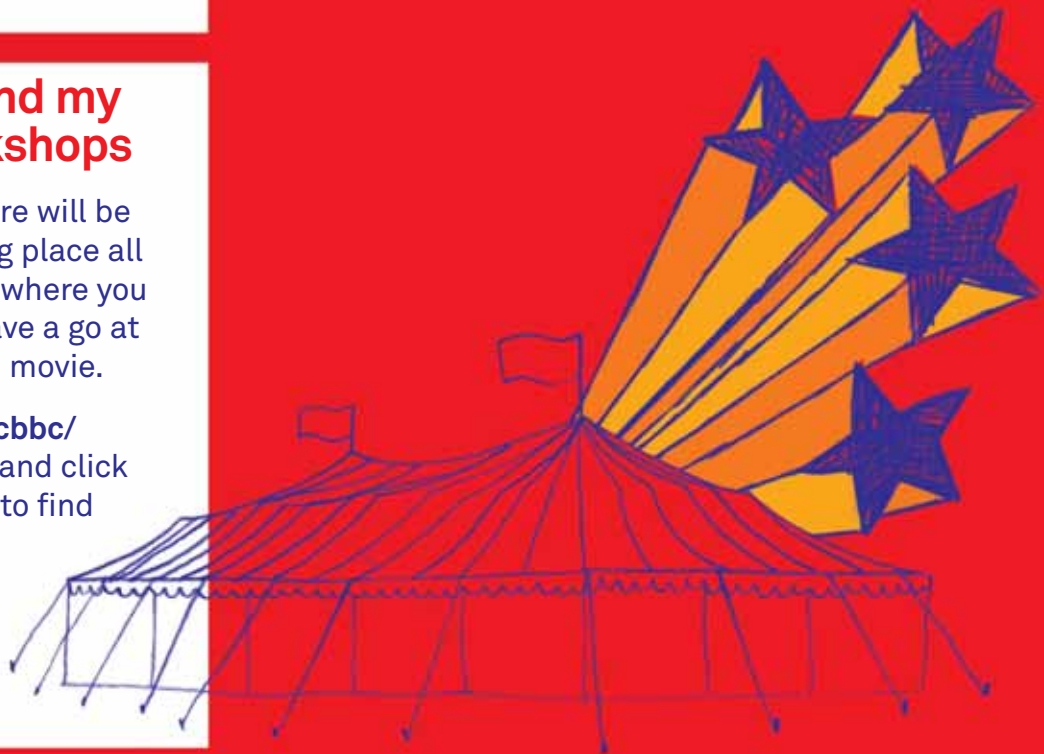
BRITISH ACADEMY
OF FILM AND TELEVISION ARTS

me and my
movie

CBBC me and my movie workshops

This summer there will be workshops taking place all over the country where you can come and have a go at making your own movie.

Go to bbc.co.uk/cbbc/meandmymovie and click on 'Get Involved' to find out more.



me and my
movie





Parents'/teachers' pack available at
[www.downloads.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/
menandmymovie/parent_teachers.pdf](http://www.downloads.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/menandmymovie/parent_teachers.pdf)

Welsh translation available at
bbc.co.uk/cbbc/meandmymovie

Published by BBC Learning
Room MC4 A5
BBC Media Centre
201 Wood Lane
London W12 7TS

Written by and with thanks to
Mark Currie and Rachel Wang
of Chocolate Films

Design: Red Stone design

The BBC holds all rights to this guide. You cannot copy any part of this guide without permission in writing. To obtain permission, write to BBC Learning at the address given. The BBC is not responsible for the activity of external organisations or the content of external websites.



me and my movie

bbc.co.uk/cbbc/meandmymovie

meandmymovie@bbc.co.uk



BRITISH ACADEMY
OF FILM AND TELEVISION ARTS