

QUIET ON YOUR SET!

NuMinds Enrichment
Writers: Dorian & Justin
Time: 30-90 minutes+

Content Connections:

- English-Language Arts (character, indirect characterization),
- World History
- Mathematics (ratios, proportions)
- Film, theatre (set design, anachronisms)
- Computer Assisted Design (Sketchup, Minecraft, etc.)

Overview

Students are designing sets for filming that represent a character. There are many options for this course, as students could self-select a pre-existing character (e.g.--Superman, Spongebob), or they are assigned a character (e.g.--13th century Genghis Khan, Queen Elizabeth).

The simple task is designing a 2D set (drawing the set or cutting out pictures to place on a stage), while the more advanced task requires creating the set in Minecraft or Sketchup. Mathematical applications range from proportions to creating a scaled version.

Materials:

- [Pictures of sets](#) (links to appendix)
- (Easy task)
 - Blank paper (for drawing)
 - Drawing supplies (crayons, markers, pencils, colored pencils)
 - (optional) scissors
- (Medium task)
 - Tangible building materials (Legos, blocks, popsicle sticks)
 - Drawing supplies (crayons, markers, pencils, colored pencils)
 - Scissors
 - Tape/glue
 - Popsicle sticks
- (Hard task)
 - Internet-enabled devices with Minecraft (and logins)
 - Meter (or yard) stick
- (Extreme task)
 - Computers for research and AutoCAD (i.e.--Sketchup, Minecraft)
- (Extension)
 - Phones with Stop Motion app loaded
 - Phone tripods

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DIRECTIONS

Step One:

- Show [images of various sets](#) (see appendix) and ask the students to infer what type of character this represents.
 - For example, “What does the shire tell you about Hobbits?” “What does the pineapple and bright colors tell you about Spongebob?”

Step Two:

- Tell the students that they are set designers. They must build a set that represents the character. Choose the option(s) best for the students:

Easy: A well-known character with a well-known setting	Medium: A well-known character with a well-known, complicated setting is assigned.	Hard: Create a character with a set that represents his/her personality	Extreme: A historical character with a historically accurate set is assigned.
<i>Suggestions</i> Spongebob Paw Patrol Trolls	<i>Suggestions</i> Batman Guardians of the Galaxy Superman	<i>n/a</i>	<i>Suggestions</i> Genghis Khan Marie Curie Albert Einstein

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Step Three:

- Once the character has been selected, how the set will be created can be selected based on level of student readiness.

EASY 2D Sets	MEDIUM 3D Sets	HARD Digital Sets	EXTREME
<p>Using paper, the students can either draw/color the set <i>or...</i></p> <p>draw the objects and cut them out--allowing them to move and adjust set.</p>	<p>Using building materials (Legos, blocks, etc.) the students construct the set</p> <p>The paper allows the students to draw and then cut out items to place in the set.</p>	<p>Provide the students with a meter stick and explain how in Minecraft, one block is approximately 1 meter (it's not perfect...a door is 6.5 feet, but so is your avatar).</p> <p>The students use Minecraft to create the set as proportional as possible.</p> <p><i>For example, if the character in her secret lair has to jump down 10 blocks to get into her car, ask the students how far that is (~32 feet). Ask, would your character want to jump off a two-story building to land in a car?.</i></p>	<p>Whoa... The students have to research the person and anything known about their setting.</p> <p>Asking questions, such as, "Would Marie Curie have a spiral-bound notebook?" This allows you to discuss anachronisms.</p> <p>The students use Sketchup (or another online CAD) to build a proportional set--most CAD programs allow auto-placement of proportional items.</p>

EXTENSION

Allow easy and medium-tasked students to film a scene (or at least place the camera) to get the effect of creating a movie set. Students doing the hard and difficult-tasks can angle the screen and do a screen capture to get the effect of shooting a computer-generated movie.

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PICTURES OF SETS



Lord of the Rings - The Shire.



Dan Ohlman Show - New York Apartment

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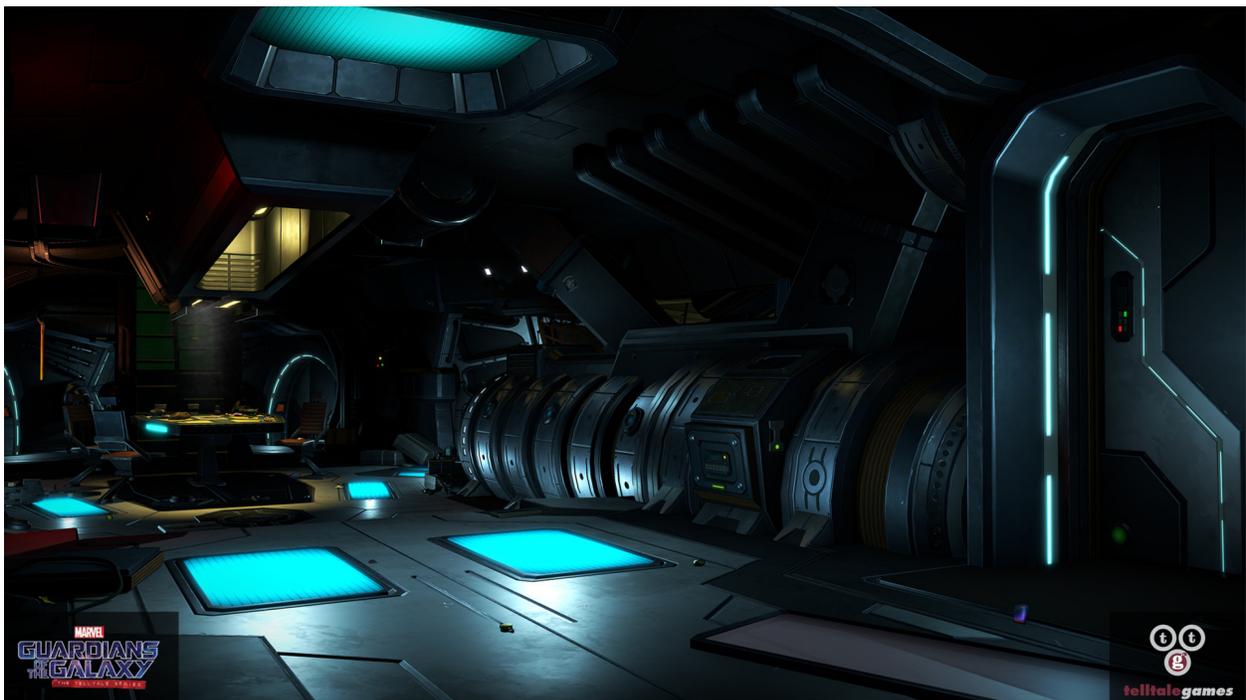
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Spongebob Squarepants - Bikini Bottom



Guardians of the Galaxy - The Milano (spaceship)

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Batman (the Telltale Series) - The Batcave

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