Miss Essaynne

PAED Activity – week 2

2 READING

TRACK 2.17 Read the article about animated movies. What do the actors do in the movies?



ANIMATED MOVIES



Adults and children all over the world know the stories of Roald Dahl, such as *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. There are also movies of his books, including some animations. Dahl's book *Fantastic Mr. Fox* came out in 1970. Director Wes Anderson decided to make a movie of the book using puppets, and in 2009 *Fantastic Mr. Fox* hit movie screens around the world.

Instead of modern computer animation, Anderson used an older "stop motion" technique to make the movie, with thousands of individual pictures of puppets. The camera takes one picture of a puppet, then the puppet is moved a little and another picture is taken. The characters in the movie are puppets, but the voices are real. Meryl Streep and Bill Murray agreed to perform in it, and George Clooney joined the team to be Mr. Fox's voice.

How are animated movies made with puppets?

First, the animator draws a storyboard, a series of pictures of the movie. The storyboard is used to plan the movie in detail.

Then, puppets of the characters are made—some of the puppets are life-size and others are no bigger than a thumbnail—and the designer plans the background. Next, the director has a rehearsal to make sure that everyone knows what they are doing. After that, they are ready to shoot the movie. The actors' voices are recorded and then the animator moves the puppets' mouths, so the characters seem to speak.

There are 24 pictures for every single second of film, so in one minute each character can move up to 1,440 times! The filmmakers often only manage to shoot a few seconds of film a day, so it can take years to make a whole animated movie.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 AFTER READING

Answer the questions.

1 Who directed *Fantastic Mr. Fox*?
2 What technique did he use to make the movie?
3 What is a storyboard?
4 Why does the director have a rehearsal?
5 Why do the characters seem to speak?
6 Why does it take a long time to make an animated movie with puppets?

1.
2.
3.
4
5.
6.

Good Luck!

LIVEWORKSHEETS