



LOOPING TO LIFE: CODE YOUR OWN ANIMATED GIFS!

STEAM CONNECTION

- Science (technical aspects of how GIFs work.)
- Technology (Utilizing PowerPoint)
- Engineering (Designing and arranging frames)
- Art (creativity)
- Math (timing and sequencing)

Objectives

- Participants will learn about the history of GIFs
- Participants will understand the basics of creating a GIF using PowerPoint

Materials

- Computers with PowerPoint installed/ Google Sheets
- Create GIFs in Simple sheet graphic

Vocabulary

1. **GIF (Graphics Interchange Format):** A bitmap image format widely used for animations and short video clips.
2. **Animation:** The technique of creating the illusion of motion by displaying a series of images or frames.
3. **Looping:** The repetition of a sequence of frames in an animation.
4. **Frame:** A single image within an animation sequence.

Introduction:

- Begin by discussing what GIFs are and where they are commonly used (social media, websites, messaging apps).
- Briefly explain the history of GIFs, including their origins in the late 1980s and their evolution into a popular form of online communication.
- Discuss the characteristics of GIFs, such as looping animations and limited color palettes.
- Introduce students to the basic animation features of PowerPoint.

Creating Your GIF in PowerPoint

- Explain how animations in PowerPoint work by sequencing different frames.
- Provide each student or group with a computer and open PowerPoint.
- Instruct them to create a new slide and insert the shapes and words they want to use in their GIF.
- Guide them through duplicating the slides and adding sequential updates/animations to each element to create the desired motion.

Reflections Questions

- What was the most challenging part of creating your GIF using PowerPoint? How did you overcome it?
- Did you encounter any unexpected outcomes or surprises while working on your GIF? How did you adapt or adjust your design in response?
- If you could go back and change one thing about your GIF, what would it be and why?
- How do you think the skills you learned in this activity could be applied in other areas, such as school projects or personal creative endeavors?



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WHAT IS A GIF?

- GIF stands for Graphics Interchange Format.
- It's like a mini-movie or animation that plays on a loop.
- GIFs can be funny, cute, informative, or express emotions.



HOW ARE GIFS MADE?

- GIFs are made from images or video clips.
- Special software or apps help create them.
- You can even make your own GIFs!



WHY DO PEOPLE USE GIFS?

- GIFs are great for expressing feelings or reactions.
- They add fun and humor to conversations.



USING GIFS RESPONSIBLY:

- Be mindful of the context when using GIFs.
- Choose appropriate GIFs for the situation.
- Respect others' feelings and avoid using offensive GIFs.





5 SIMPLE STEPS TO CREATE A GIF

STEP 1

Using Dark colors, we are going to add a simple shape

STEP 2

Next, add a simple word such as stop.

STEP 3

Then, highlight the first letter of the word and change the color.

STEP 4

Go through each letter and change its color sequentially, letter by letter, and then the simple shape.

STEP 5

The final step is to save the slides as a GIF. And now you have a custom animation

CREATE A GIF IN A FEW STEPS!



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