



Unit 3.3: We are presenters

Videoing a presentation against a green screen

Software: Popplet, iMovie (alternatives: Camera app, Microsoft Photos, Adobe Premiere Elements)

Hardware: iPad, green screen background (with good lighting), tripod and iPad mount

Overview

In this unit, pupils create an informative presentation for their peers about a topic or subtopic from another curriculum area. They source images online to illustrate their presentation and film it against a **green screen** background. In:

- **Session 1** they research their topic
- **Session 2** they find images online to illustrate their talk
- **Session 3** they rehearse their presentations
- **Session 4** they record their presentations
- **Session 5** they edit their presentations
- **Session 6** they peer assess their presentations.

Alternatives

The unit sessions give step-by-step guidance to using Popplet and iMovie to create illustrated presentations using a green screen. This unit could alternatively be carried out using PowerPoint, Adobe Spark Video, webcams or digital cameras. Pupils can edit video using Microsoft Photos (although this does not support the green screen effect), or use commercial software for Windows, such as Adobe Premiere Elements for a green screen effect (using Chroma Key or Videomerge).

Knowledge, skills and concepts

In this unit, pupils will learn to:

- develop their web-based research skills
- structure, prepare and deliver a talk about a given topic or subtopic studied in another curriculum area
- record a piece to camera
- edit a movie using static images and **green screen** footage
- give constructive, critical feedback on recorded presentations.

Progression

In Key Stage 1:

- Pupils learn filming and editing techniques in **Unit 1.2: We are TV chefs**.
- The web-based research in this unit draws on skills introduced in **Unit 2.4: We are safe researchers**.

In Key Stage 2:

- Pupils develop their video skills in **Unit 3.4: We are who we are**.
- Pupils build on presenting and green screen editing skills in **Unit 4.6: We are meteorologists**.

Assessment – by the end of the unit:

All pupils can:

- search the Internet for content relevant to their topic and make notes
- identify images to use for their presentation
- talk about their topic
- record another pupil talking about their topic
- combine background images and live video
- give feedback to other pupils on their talks.

Most pupils can:

- evaluate the quality and relevance of sources to use for their presentation
- identify high-quality, effective images to use for their presentation
- give a clear and well-structured talk on their topic
- ensure that background images and live video are synchronised correctly
- use criteria to give feedback to others on their talks.

Some pupils can:

- summarise longer pieces of writing for their talk
- respect intellectual property rights when sourcing images for their talk
- give an interesting and informative talk on their topic
- edit video and images to create a high-quality recording of their talk
- give constructive, critical feedback to others on their talks.

Background information

- In this unit, pupils use online **search engines** to find images to illustrate their presentation to an audience of their peers. They learn that images are the intellectual property of others, but **Creative Commons** licences allow reuse of some images without additional permission.
- **Green screen** video (also known as chroma key) allows one video to be superimposed onto another, replacing the bright green **pixels** on the upper video layer with the corresponding pixels from the lower layer, effectively making

the bright green areas of the upper track transparent. Using this approach pupils can, e.g. create a video in which they appear to be near a volcano, in a Saxon village or on the Moon. Filming a video for use this way requires a plain, bright green, well-lit background. The technique is commonly used in TV weather forecasts, where the presenter is seen on screen, and in combination with computer-generated images (CGI) for special effects in film and TV.

Key vocabulary

Camera roll: dedicated directory on iPads in which all images are stored; can be shared across multiple devices depending on how these have been configured

Colour value: the combination of red, green and blue values, each on a 0–255 scale, which represents the colour of any given pixel

Creative Commons: copyright licensing scheme in which content can be re-used without additional permission, subject to certain specified conditions

Green screen: video technique in which the bright green pixels of each frame in video footage are replaced by corresponding pixels from background video or images, effectively making these areas of the frames transparent

‘Ken Burns’: video effect in which the video frame moves across and perhaps zooms into or out from a static image, such as a photograph; named after a US cinematographer who made extensive use of this technique in historical documentaries

Pixel: picture element – one of the small, square dots that makes up a digital image

Resolution: the number of pixels that make up an image or frame of video – the higher the value, the more detail is visible

Rushes: unedited footage from a video recording

Search engine: web-based service providing links to other web pages, images or other content that matches the keywords and other criteria specified. Results are typically ranked on the number and quality of inbound links

Differentiation

To add challenge, pupils may create their own background images, use video rather than static images and/or experiment with the filters, transitions and other effects available in iMovie.

Consider changing the outcome, for those who need more support, to a simpler, narrated presentation created in PowerPoint or Adobe Spark Video. Alternatively, use the narration tool in iMovie to record an audio-only track to accompany chosen images. Support those who need to read their script or notes while filming by using the autocue app on an iPad, positioned just above the camera.

If pupils choose their own topics, give guidance regarding the level of challenge and suitability. More ideas are given in the *Support* and *Challenge* sections within each session (pages 33–38).

Cross-curricular opportunities

English: Pupils could talk about books studied, re-tell a familiar story in their own words or speak about a favourite author. They might use illustrations from the books in their presentation.

History, science, geography, RE, art and design, music: Give pupils a list of possible research topics or subtopics related to other curriculum subjects.

Preparation for teaching the unit

Things to do

- Check you have access to iPads, including Popplet and iMovie (see *Alternatives* on page 30).
- Provide pupils with a 'studio' where they can film for Session 4. This needs to have a green screen background, which can be backing paper or a cloth background of the appropriate bright shade of green. The background should be well lit. It is helpful to have a tripod and mount for the iPad.
- Prepare a list of suitable topics/subtopics for pupils to research. You may also provide questions and suggested websites as a starting point for research (see *Useful links*).
- This unit can be effectively linked to other curriculum areas studied, to consolidate and share knowledge and learning across the curriculum.
- Read pages 30–31 to get an overview of the unit.
- Read the steps in the unit sessions (pages 33–38) and look at the associated online resources, printing out the worksheets as required.
- Watch the CPD videos.
- Work through the unit yourself, so you know what is expected of pupils.
- If pupils will share their work or save their work online, ensure that they have accounts set up, that necessary permissions have been obtained and that these are integrated with the iPads they are using.

Resources needed

- **Software:** Popplet, iMovie (see *Alternatives* page 30)
- **Hardware:** iPads, green screen backgrounds, tripods with iPad mounts

Online resources provided

Session resources

- Worksheet 3.3a: End-of-unit quiz
- Worksheet 3.3b: Pupil self-assessment
- Teaching slides 3.3a–3.3f
- Walkthrough videos 3.3a–3.3c
- Interactive end-of-unit quiz 3.3

Additional resources

- CPD video: How digital video works
- CPD video: How video editing works

Online safety

- Make sure that the necessary Internet filters and monitors are in place.
- Remind pupils about what they should do if they encounter inappropriate images or other content (turn their iPads over (or turn screens off/close laptop lids) and tell a teacher/adult). They can get more appropriate search results by adding 'for children' into their search terms.
- Remind pupils that they should respect intellectual property. Show them how they can restrict their search to Creative Commons licensed content.
- As pupils are filming themselves, parental permission must be obtained. In Session 6, pupils consider why not to publish their videos online.

Collaboration

The sessions assume pupils will research and present their topic independently, receiving feedback from a partner and helping another to film their talk. This provides the opportunity for pupils to learn from one another throughout the unit. Alternatively, pupils could create presentations with partners or groups.

Useful links

Software and tools

- Popplet: www.popplet.com
- iMovie for iPad OS: www.apple.com/uk/imovie

Online tutorials

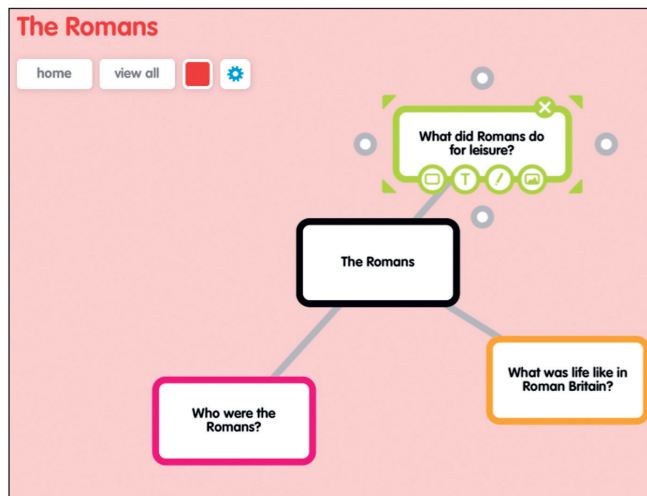
- Popplet: www.popplet.com/blog/tutorial-getting-started-all-about-popples/
- iMovie: help.apple.com/imovie/ipad/2.2.8
- Green screen in iMovie:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IR0GEV5T14

Information and ideas

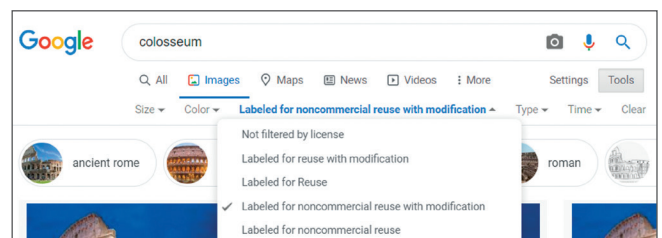
- Green screen in the classroom: www.medium.com/unfold-ed/7-tips-for-teachers-green-screen-in-the-classroom-e4f484b5d620
- How green screen video works:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=E7543VyHYf4
- Green screen failure:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvdM8Rpl4HY
- Green screen tricks:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=2DaMidONaGg
- Green screen mistakes:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTFT-H3D_H0

Unit outcomes

Below are some examples of the outcomes you could expect from this unit.



Session 1: Creating a popplet to record research



Session 2: Conducting a SafeSearch for images labelled for reuse



Session 3: Preparing and practising the presentation



Session 4: Presenting in front of a green screen



Session 5: Cropping the video



Session 6: Watching and reviewing the presentations