

Animoto - <http://animoto.com/>

This site allows students to create videos. The students upload photos and music, or they can choose some from the site. It also has the option to add your own video clips.

Teachers at Eminence Middle and High School (Eminence, KY) use Animoto for a variety of lessons. Language Arts teachers have students retell a story using all the elements of plot. The work is done as a group. High school English teachers have students create poems through video. Some make a video as a book project instead of writing a book report. The school librarian has students create video book reviews, which are available for all students to view. The reading teacher has students act out vocabulary from a book that was read in class.

EASY ANIMOTO

1. Go to <http://animoto.com>
2. Click on “Sign Up”
3. Choose “Lite” option (free)
4. Enter email, password, first and last name. (You can also apply for a free educator’s account—link is at the bottom of the page this gives free access to “plus” features. I used my library’s name and listed “Summer Reading” as the subject. This allows you to make longer videos for free, use other formats, and to work with groups.)
5. Choose a video style. (I have only used “Animoto Original”)
6. Click on “make a 30-second video for free” (in small print under the “Purchase Video” button).
7. Click on “Choose Music”
8. Preview music by selecting a title and clicking on the play button at the bottom of the box. When you have made your choice click on the “Add Song” button in the lower right corner.
9. Click on the “Add Pics & Vids” button.

10. Choose source of images—you can use Animoto's from their Image Library and Footage Library.
11. Select an image, then click the "Add One item" button.
12. Text can be added between the visuals by clicking on the add text box and typing in your message.
13. Images/text can be deleted or moved to another order.
14. When everything is perfect, (or to your satisfaction), click the "Produce Video" button.
15. Wait a few minutes and you will be sent an email to let you know it is ready to view.
16. Videos can be shared via email, Facebook, Twitter, etc.

Now, you can forget the lights and the camera, just take ACTION!

Feel free to email me if you have any questions—or to show me your movies.

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