

“In Outer Space”



Module 8, Adventure 2

Prompt:

There are astronauts training for a trip to Mars, and they need help! They need more examples of how rovers explore Mars--what rovers do and what they see. This way, when they land, they have an idea of what to expect.

Design a stop motion animation showing a scene on Mars for the astronauts! Stop motion is a way to film a movie by moving objects a tiny bit each time a picture is taken. When the pictures are put together quickly, like a fast slideshow, it looks like the objects are moving.

If you designed your own planet in Module 7, help train astronauts for a trip to *your* planet. You can use the poster you created as a backdrop.

Materials:

- Smart phone, iPad, or tablet (with a camera)
- [Stop Motion Studio](#) (free app - please ask your grown-up before downloading!)
 - [Google Play Store](#)
 - [Apple Store](#)
- Pencil or pen
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Assorted craft supplies to make a stop motion animation (such as craft sticks, yarn or string, pipe cleaners, cotton balls, etc.)
- Tape
- Scissors
- Explorer Notebook or a piece of paper
- *Optional: Small toys or figurines*
- *Optional: Rover from Adventure 1*

- *Optional: Planet backdrop from Module 7, Adventure 2*

Instructions:

1. First, watch this [Boston Children's Museum video](#) about what stop motion animation is, how to use the free app, and how to set up your own movie.
2. With permission and the help of a grown-up, download the free Stop Motion Studio app.
3. Think about the scene you want to show in your movie. We recommend having one to four characters in your scene to start. A lot of characters makes it very difficult to move and keep the story going.
4. Plan out your movie scene by making a storyboard in your Explorer Notebook or on a piece of paper. Think about what will happen:
 - a. **Who** are the characters in your scene?
 - b. **What** do they see?
 - c. **What** do they do?
 - d. **What** happens at the end?
5. We recommend keeping the smartphone or tablet in one spot the whole time. That way, just your characters are moving.
 - a. Taping the device down or making a stand can help with this!
6. Set up your scene and film your movie scene!
7. When you are done, the scene will save and you can watch it later and share it with others.

For explorers using an Explorer Notebook:

1. Plan out your movie scene by writing and/or drawing a storyboard before you start filming.

Check out the last page for a page design idea. You can use this or set up your page however you want!

Resources:

1. You can watch stop motion animations from visitors at Boston Children's Museum on the [BCM Stop Motion channel](#) on YouTube.

Extensions:

The following are optional steps you can take if you want to extend this adventure:

1. Keep the story going! What happens when the astronauts or rover go to a different part of the planet?
2. Get some snacks and invite people at home to come to the opening of your movie.
3. Go to the "In Outer Space" topic on Flipgrid and share your creation!

Explorer Notebook

You can use this to help you set up your Explorer Notebook!

Stop Motion Animation Module 8, Adventure 2

My Storyboard:

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