



Stubbies (Volume 1)

Programs:	Stubbies (Volume 1)
Year Level:	
Curriculum Study Areas:	English, The Arts (Media, Drama, Music, Visual)
Themes/Topics:	Personal and interpersonal relationships, social responsibility, behaviour, identity, place and space, communication, personal and social competence, critical and creative thinking, multi-literacy, comprehension, language features, listening, viewing, speaking, writing and analysing, inferring, questioning, evaluating, synthesising, codes and conventions of Media, point of view, expression, storytelling, comedy, animation.
Description:	The following ideas and Students Activities have been developed to support teachers use Stubbies in the classroom and to get students to engage with the digital media from Stubbies in a meaningful way.
Resources:	Clips: <i>My Strange Pet</i> <i>Horace in Slow Motion</i> <i>Dukes of Broxtonia</i> <i>Casa de Evil</i>

Education Notes

My Strange Pet

Nine year old Henry has three strange pets, a long necked turtle, a scruffy haired dog and a giant Quonkka called Basil who is more a woolly monster than domesticated pet. Believing Basil to be a very rare Australian marsupial, Henry treats him like any of his other regular pets.

In these short 'mockumentary' style episodes the mayhem increases as Henry learns that he has a very strange pet indeed.

'Mockumentary' is a type of film or television that presents fictional events in a documentary style, so to create a parody. Explore this concept further with your students.

As a class, select and view one episode of *My Strange Pet* and have students undertake the following activities.



Student Activities:

1. Define 'mockumentary' in a short paragraph.
2. Find some good examples of 'mockumentary' television and film. List the program titles of these examples.
3. Explain the codes and conventions of 'mockumentary' style film and television. Include a sentence to respond to each of the following points:
 - The key objective of the style
 - The types of camera angles/shots used
 - The types of directions you would give to an actor in a 'mockumentary' style TV program
 - Why sound effects are used in 'mockumentary'
 - Elements of 'mockumentary' storytelling.
4. Write a review for one episode of *My Strange Pet*. Be sure to explain what you thought about the following elements in the episode you are reviewing:
 - The comedy
 - The camera angles used to engage the audience
 - The acting
 - The sounds effects
 - The story in general.
5. Who do you think is the intended audience for this series? Create a profile for the intended audience of *My Strange Pet*. Include the following:
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Interests/hobbies
 - When they watch TV
 - Why they watch TV
 - How they watch TV (streamed, recorded, live)

Horace in Slow Motion

Horace is a lovable, portly pig who performs his greatest bodily acts in slow motion. Gyrate with Horace as he does the belly dance! Laugh out loud as he attempts to eat cake on a treadmill! Dry reach as he pops a zit!

Horace in Slow Motion uses slapstick and physical comedy to engage the audience with Horace's constant, clumsy and disgusting scenarios.

As a class, select and view one episode of *Horace in Slow Motion* and have students undertake the following activities.



Student Activities

1. Define and compare slapstick and physical comedy in a short paragraph. What are the similarities and difference?
2. Using a few sentences, provide responses for each of the following:
 - a. Why is animation a good medium for *Horace in Slow Motion*? (I.e. what works, what doesn't work?)
 - b. Why do you think the creators used 'slow motion' in the episodes?
 - c. Explain the different elements that make each episode funny? (E.g. sound, colour, character)
 - d. Describe Horace's character. Include the following; Age, occupation, ancestry, hobbies, family, favourite foods.
3. Who do you think is the intended audience for this series? Create a profile for the intended viewer of *Horace in Slow Motion*. Include the following:
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Interests/hobbies
 - When they watch TV
 - Why they watch TV
 - How they watch TV (streamed, recorded, live)..

Dukes of Broxstonia

The Dukes are the hottest band to come out of Broxstonia in years. In fact they're the only band to come out of Broxstonia ever. The band is composed of teenagers Arj, Barj, and Larj. And now thanks to the generosity of the Broxstonian government, they're on tour, spreading their uniquely punk thrash sounds to the world.

Similar to live action, animation can be created and presented in many forms. *The Dukes of Broxstonia* series has been created with a very unique style. This style has had great appeal across a broad audience. Watch one episode and discuss with your students the different elements that make this animated series unique and appealing. Ask students to record answers to the following questions:

Student Activities

1. The music in the *Dukes of Broxstonia* series could be classified as 'heavy metal'. Research heavy metal music and write a short paragraph that describes the style of music and the associated culture of the music.
2. In every culture there are stereotypes. Define the word 'stereotype'. Describe a stereotypical heavy metal rocker (person).



3. The Dukes of Broxtonia are supported financially by the 'Broxstonian' government to make music and tour playing their music live to audiences. The Australian Government at both state and federal levels support The Arts through funding and grants. Research The Arts in Australia further using the following:
 - List and name three different arts organisations (e.g. dance, theatre, film, music, gallery)
 - List details about organisation's government funding arrangements
 - Write a short paragraph describing how each organisation uses its funding to create and present 'art'.
4. Write a short paragraph describing the animation style of the *Dukes of Broxtonia* series.
5. Who do you think is the intended audience for this series? Create a profile for the intended viewer of the *Dukes of Broxtonia*. Include the following:
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Interests/hobbies
 - When they watch TV
 - Why they watch TV
 - How they watch TV (streamed, recorded, live).

Casa de Evil

Recharge your batteries at Casa De Evil. The secret island resort especially for super villains! Casa De Evil is a series of mock advertisements for the ultimate super villain holiday destination. Each short live action/animation hybrid episode sees our villains trying to unwind and use the resort facilities, but their true nature is never far away.

Casa de Evil, combines live action with animation to help depict a fantasy world. Narration is used to help the audience understand this fantasy world and engage with it in a fun and entertaining way. The audience is required to suspend their disbelief at all times.

Select and watch an episode of *Casa de Evil* with your students, and have them record answers to the following.

Student Activities

1. In every episode of *Casa De Evil*, live action and animation have been combined. Write a short paragraph to explain why this has been done and whether or not you like the style.
2. *Casa de Evil* is based on a fantasy land, where there are evil villains in costume. Create your own superhero. List the following character profile points:



- Superhero's name
 - Age
 - Family background
 - Costume (describe in two sentences)
 - Their main line of hero work (e.g. saving children from bad experiences, giving money to the poor, restoring corrupt scientific experiments).
 - Their inspiration for being a hero.
3. Create a simple picture book with no more than 6 pages, depicting your superhero at work.
- a. Add a written narration to your picture book to help the reader or audience connect with your superhero.
 - b. Use a digital camera to record your picture book and narration.