

**Animation**
**Task 1 – Flash the face**

Your teacher is going to show you some pictures. Who are they? What do you know about them?

**Task 2 – Find the animation fans**

| Find someone who...   | Name | Extra information |
|---|------|-------------------|
| ....has a favourite cartoon                                       |      |                   |
| ....has watched a cartoon this week.                              |      |                   |
| .....is a good artist   |      |                   |
| .....has a cartoon character on their clothes, bag or pencil case |      |                   |
| .....likes animated films   |      |                   |

**Task 3 – Let's watch a clip!**

You are going to watch a clip of British animation. As you watch, make notes in the table below:

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Who/ What are the main characters? |  |
| Describe one of the characters     |  |
| Were there any sound effects?      |  |
| Was there any music?               |  |
| Do you like the clip? Why/ not?    |  |
| What do you think happens next?    |  |

**Task 4 – Reading: Animation flies home**

Before you read the text, ask your classmates about what they know about the following films.

|                 | Have seen it | Haven't seen it but have heard about it | Have never heard of it |
|-----------------|--------------|---|------------------------|
| Harry Potter    |              |   |                        |
| Valiant         |              |   |                        |
| Toy Story       |              |   |                        |
| Shrek           |              |   |                        |
| The incredibles |              |   |                        |

Now you're going to read about the making of Valiant. Read the text then discuss the questions below with your group.

**Animation Flies Home**

The UK's animation industry is leading the way for low-cost innovative CGI (computer generated image) technology with big productions such as Valiant.

Well established as the site of major family-oriented film production, with films such as Harry Potter, the UK is fast becoming the centre of a digital animation and effects industry. Projects such as The New Captain Scarlet TV series, and the hit movie Valiant are attracting Hollywood and other international investment. The current worth of the global digital animation and special effects industry is expected to be in excess of \$70bn.

Animation is associated with some of the most exciting and financially successful movies of recent years: from the groundbreaking Toy Story to Shrek and The Incredibles. Yet none of these CGI (computer generated image) blockbusters have been made outside of Hollywood – until now. Valiant, a new family film, about the life of a plucky carrier pigeon in the Second World War, was made entirely in Britain, using a purpose-built animation facility at London's famous Ealing Studios.

The UK Film Council made its biggest ever contribution to a single film, putting in £2.5 million. This ensured that Valiant – whose characters are voiced by human icons including Ewan McGregor, John Hurt and The Office creator Ricky Gervais – was an entirely British-made, British-written and British-directed production

- Compared to the Hollywood blockbusters, was Valiant an expensive film to make?
- What's Valiant about?
- Do you think it's important to have famous people as the voices of animated characters? Why / not?
- Do you prefer digital animation or old-fashioned animation? Why?

### **Task 5 – Design your own cartoon character**

You are working for a film production company and have been asked to create a new cartoon character for an animated film.

**Name:**

**Date of birth:**

**Nationality:**

**Job:**

**Special qualities:**

**Personality:**

**Draw your character here:**