



## Toon Club Freebies

### Zoetrope

#### History:

The Zoetrope was invented in 1834 by *William George Horner* , who originally called it a Daedalum ("Wheel of the Devil"). It was based on Plateau's phenakistoscope, but was more convenient since it did not require a viewing mirror and allowed more than one person to use it at the same time. Horner's invention strangely became forgotten for nearly thirty years until 1867, when it became patented in England by M. Bradley, and in America by William F. Lincoln. Lincoln renamed the Daedalum, giving it the name of "Zoetrope," or "Wheel of life."

#### Material needed

- Print out of the zoetrope template
- Flexible cardboard
- Glue
- Scissors
- Drawings pins / soft board pins
- Pencils with eraser tops
- Coloured pencils, felt pens or crayons

#### How to make your Zoetrope

1. Download and print out the Zoetrope template along with the base. Also print out the blank strips to create your own mini movie for your Zoetrope. (You can later screen these mini movies for your friends)
2. Glue the base and template onto the flexible cardboard, pressing out any wrinkles. Allow to dry.
3. Carefully cut out the slots.
4. Crease along the dotted lines to form a disk.
5. Glue the two ends of the template together with the pictures on the inside, forming a cylinder.
6. Fold up the tabs and glue them to the corners of the base. Allow to dry.
7. Pierce a hole at the center of the base and attach a pencil with the help of the drawing pin.
8. To work the zoetrope, hold the pencil between your palms and twist to watch your disk turn. Look through the slots to view your mini movie.

#### Make your own Zoetrope

Use the blank strips to create your own animation movies. There are 12 frames in all. Remember the first and the last frame must connect to make the animation loop. Create a sequence of drawings with very little change between them from Frame 1 to frame 7. Now from 8 to 12, go back the same way so that your animation loops.

Put your strip in your Zoetrope and spin to see if it works. If it does, colour it and make it attractive.



**What will happen and why?**

When you move your Zoetrope very fast, due to Persistence of Vision, the pictures blend with each other giving the illusion of movement.

## Create your own!

Download this template. You'll find blank Zoetrope strips. Once you have your disk ready, you can use the blank strips to create 3 different mini films. One is already done for you in the template as a guide. Draw with a pencil. Remember to test your Zoetrope before inking & colouring. Voila! Your own mini-movies is ready 😊 Cheers!

