



THE MAGIC OF FOLEY

Have you ever noticed all the tiny, realistic sound effects in your favourite movies and shows?

The sounds of footsteps, objects being moved, fabric rustling, and more are often not recorded during the actual filming. Instead, these detailed noises are added later by sound artists called Foley artists.

In this hands-on module, you'll get to step into a Foley artist's shoes and bring scenes to life through custom-made sound effects and see how they make scenes feel more real and exciting!

*Print the activity pages at the end of this document and enjoy the rest on screen!

- A short, silent film clip
- Recording devices (phones, tablets, voice recorders, etc.)
- All sorts of random objects you can find around your classroom and school



WHAT ARE FOLEY SOUNDS ARE AND WHY ARE THEY SO IMPORTANT IN MOVIES AND TV SHOWS?

Foley sounds are named after Jack Foley, one of the first sound effects wizards in the film industry. Foley artists use creative techniques to remake those missing sounds by using everyday objects in clever ways. This added audio helps fill in the gaps, emphasizing important story moments and making scenes feel super dynamic and lifelike.

Here's a great example! [Watch "Night of the Living Denim"](#) and pay attention to the sounds (click in the link or scan the QR code below to watch it).



Additional links:

[Here's a fun youtube video about how Foley works!](#)

[Here's a video demonstrating how you can use things around your house/classroom to make cool sound effects](#)

REMEMBER: This is no ordinary sound project! Experience the creative process of crafting Foley effects step-by-step. Teamwork, out-of-the-box thinking with basic objects are essential.

PART ONE: THE SOUND ADVENTURE (30 MINUTES)

1. Your class will split into pairs or small crews of 3.
2. Together, watch the short film clip provided but with no sound playing.
3. Each crew will be assigned a specific moment or scene from the film that you'll be in charge of creating the sound effects for.
4. Using the recording devices, go on a scavenger hunt around your classroom and school to find objects that can creatively reproduce the sounds happening in your scene.
5. Experiment by making different noises with the objects and recording multiple options for each sound effect needed.
6. Submit your awesome Foley sound recordings to your instructor once completed.
7. Your instructor will compile everyone's sounds and sync them up to the corresponding scenes.
8. Now rewatching time! See how your custom sounds make the clip feel so alive.
9. Finally, watch the original version to compare your work to the pros. Write them down in the section below.

PROS:

CONS:

AFTER WATCHING THE ORIGINAL, WHAT DIFFERENCES DID YOU NOTICE IN THE PROFESSIONAL FOLEY ARTISTS' WORK?

WAS IT EASIER OR HARDER THAN EXPECTED TO COLLABORATE ON THE FOLEY SOUNDS AS A TEAM? WHY?

**PART TWO: COMPARE & DISCUSS
(20 MINUTES)**

Answer the following questions and compare your answers with the different teams:

WHAT RANDOM OBJECTS DID YOUR CREW USE TO MAKE YOUR FOLEY SOUNDS?

WHAT WAS THE MOST FUN PART OF THIS HANDS-ON SOUND ACTIVITY FOR YOU?

WHAT CLEVER SOUND-MAKING TECHNIQUES WORKED WELL? WHAT DIDN'T WORK AS PLANNED?

CAN YOU APPRECIATE HOW MUCH ARTISTRY AND SKILL GOES INTO FOLEY NOW THAT YOU'VE TRIED IT?
