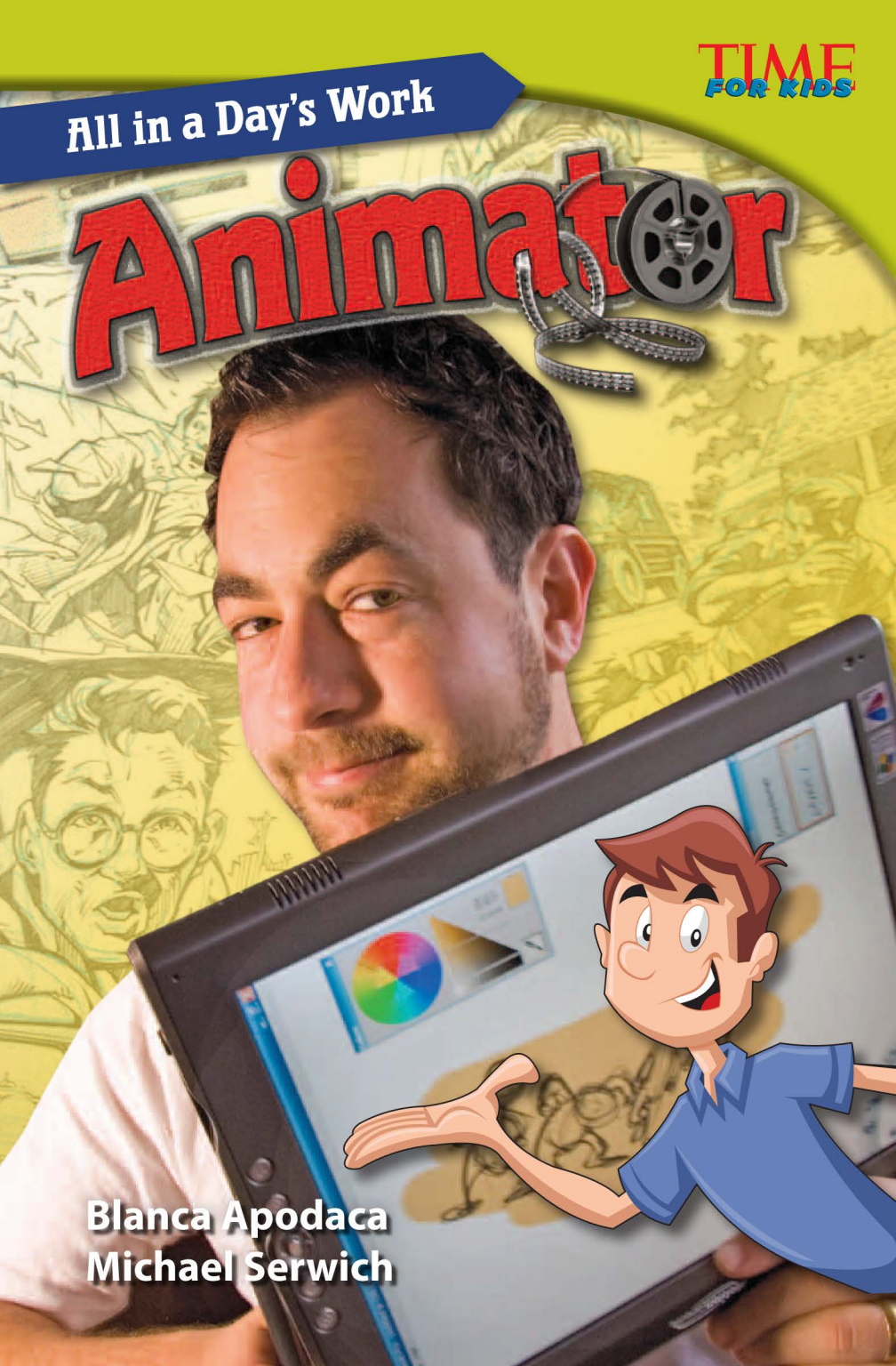
TIME FOR KIDS

All in a Day's Work

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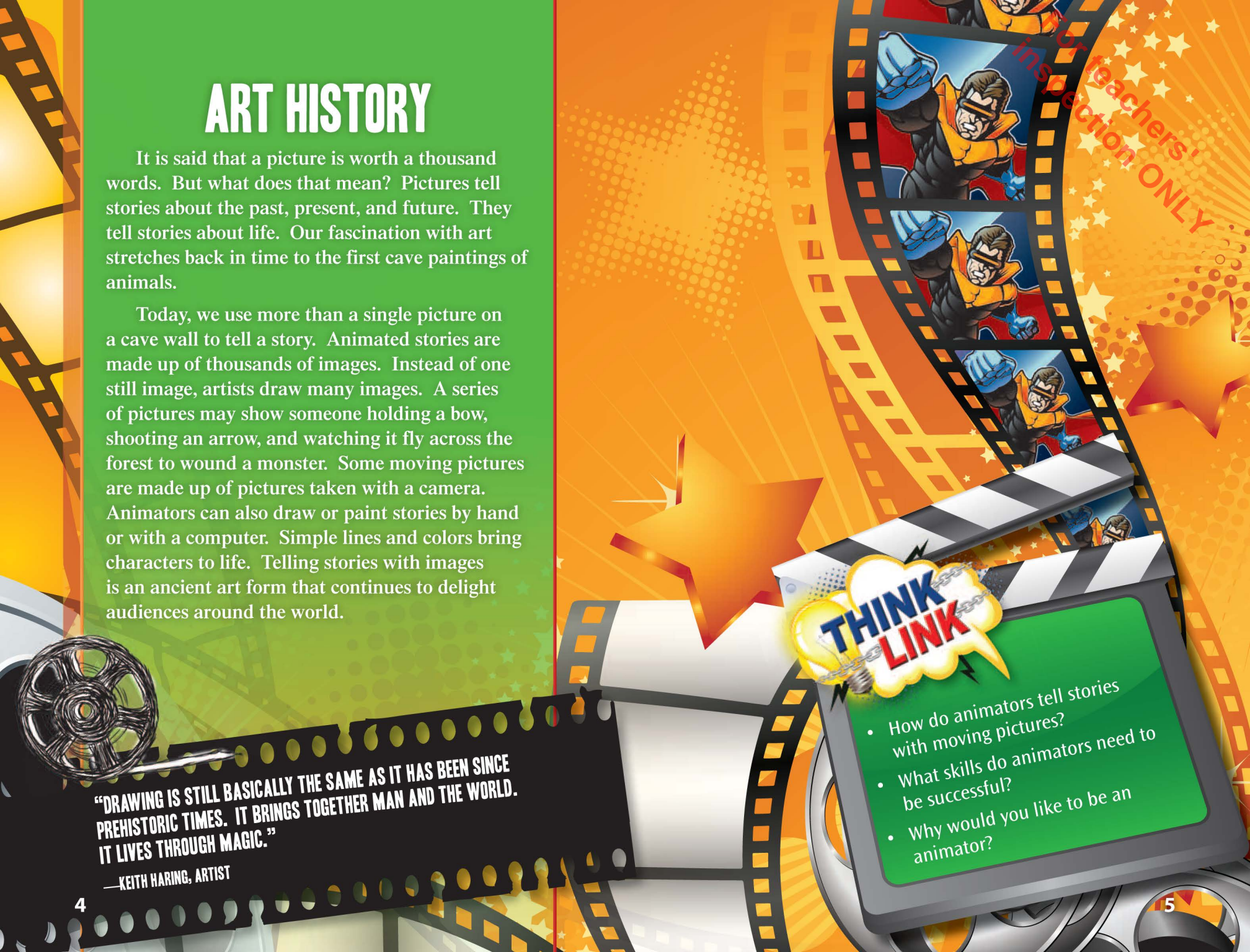
ART HISTORY

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words. But what does that mean? Pictures tell stories about the past, present, and future. They tell stories about life. Our fascination with art stretches back in time to the first cave paintings of animals.

Today, we use more than a single picture on a cave wall to tell a story. Animated stories are made up of thousands of images. Instead of one still image, artists draw many images. A series of pictures may show someone holding a bow, shooting an arrow, and watching it fly across the forest to wound a monster. Some moving pictures are made up of pictures taken with a camera. Animators can also draw or paint stories by hand or with a computer. Simple lines and colors bring characters to life. Telling stories with images is an ancient art form that continues to delight audiences around the world.

"DRAWING IS STILL BASICALLY THE SAME AS IT HAS BEEN SINCE PREHISTORIC TIMES. IT BRINGS TOGETHER MAN AND THE WORLD. IT LIVES THROUGH MAGIC."

—KEITH HARING, ARTIST



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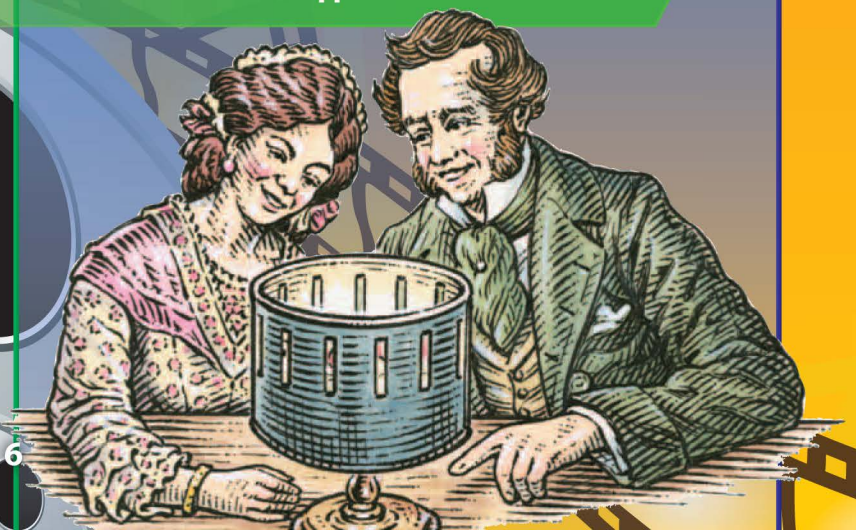
THINK LINK

- How do animators tell stories with moving pictures?
- What skills do animators need to be successful?
- Why would you like to be an animator?

SPINNING A STORY

Many creative people and their clever inventions led to the movie magic we enjoy today. The **zoetrope** (ZOH-ee-trohp) came before the spread of electricity. Invented in the 1880s, it was one of the first machines to make moving pictures. The zoetrope contained a strip of pictures in a cylinder. Each picture was slightly different from the one next to it. Small windows lined the cylinder. The viewer spun the zoetrope and looked through the windows. With a twist of the wrist, the images seemed to come to life. The zoetrope was one of the first ways to present a short story that could be watched again and again.

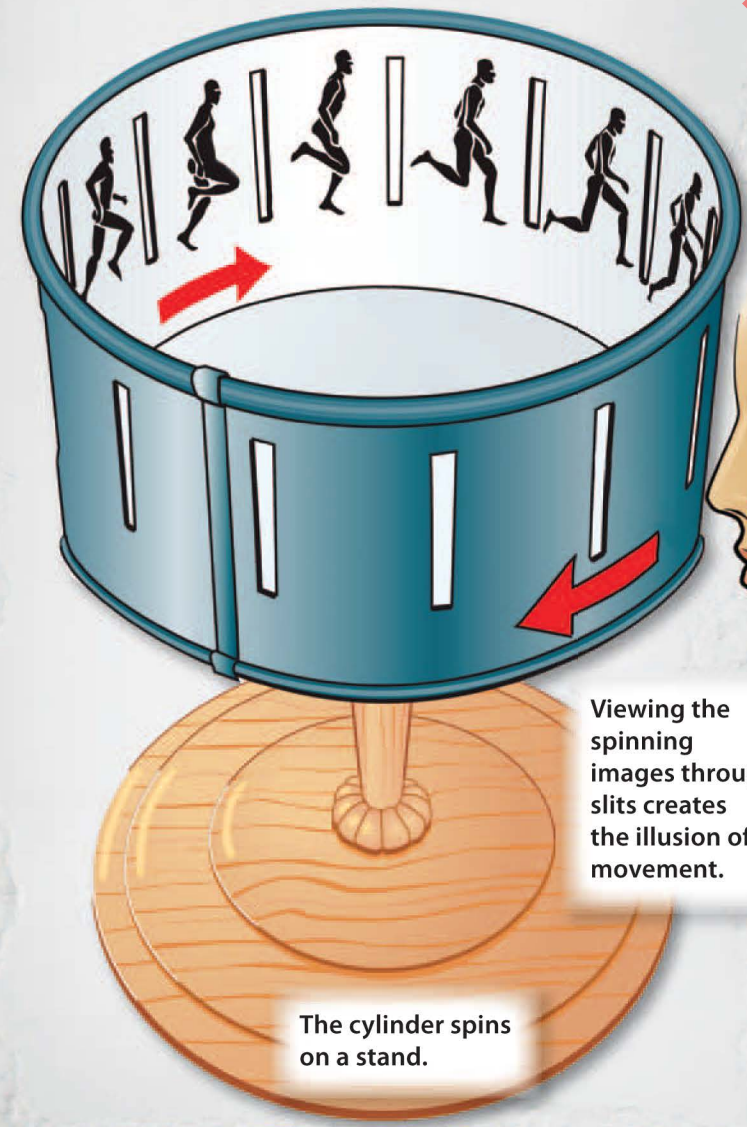
One of the first zoetropes was made in China almost 2,000 years ago. It was called a *chao hua chich kuan*. The phrase can be translated as "the pipe which makes fantasies appear."



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Inside a Zoetrope

A panel of drawings shows a character's slightly changing position in each image.

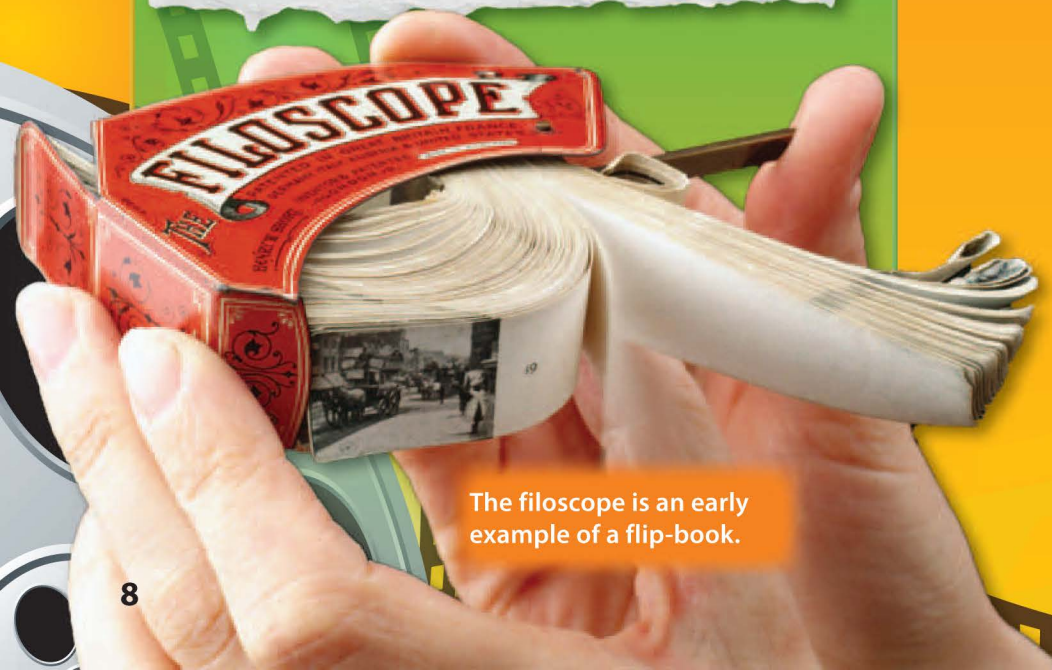


FLIPPING OUT

The first **flip-book** was **patented** in 1868. The concept was similar to a zoetrope, but smaller. Flip-books are made up of a series of pictures. Each picture in the book is drawn on a separate piece of paper. The idea is to draw each picture slightly differently from the one before. The drawings are then stacked in order and flipped through quickly. As they flip, the images appear to move.

Your Mind's Eye

If you close your eyes after staring at a candle flame, you will still "see" it in your mind. This is known as *persistence of vision*. This same illusion makes the images in a flip-book appear to be moving.



The filoscope is an early example of a flip-book.

Make Your Own

Anyone can make a flip-book. All it takes is paper, something to write with, and a good imagination!

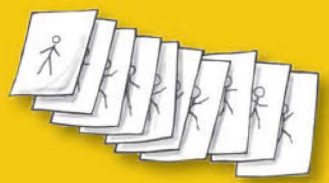
1. Draw a simple character in 10 slightly different positions.



2. Cut out the images.



3. Organize them in order from top to bottom.



4. Staple the book together on the left side.



5. Flip through the book using your right thumb.



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