

***The Mummy* (dir. Terence Fisher, 1959)**

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Key Stage 3 Art & Design

A lesson where students learn about, analyse and deploy the design principles of the horror movie poster. The exercise allows students to think about how films are marketed to audiences and the role of the poster within this.

Curriculum Links

- Investigating, analysing, designing, making, reflecting and evaluating effectively.
- Producing imaginative images, artefacts and other outcomes that are both original and of value.
- Engaging with a range of images and artefacts from different contexts, recognising the varied characteristics of different cultures and using them to inform their creating and making.
- Engaging with ideas, images and artefacts, and identifying how values and meanings are conveyed.

Lesson Objective

To allow students to explore design techniques used for horror movie posters and to enhance design and illustration skills by creating their own version.

You will need...

- **Trailer:** poster for *The Mummy* (provided)
- **Main Attraction:** list of horror movie titles (provided)
- **End Credits:** internet connection; official trailer for *The Mummy*
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTnkLTRR6v8>

Activities

TRAILER: DOES THIS LOOK LIKE A SCARY FILM?

Show students the poster for *The Mummy* and ask them to think about how scary it is in comparison to other horror film posters they can think of. What's different about it? In their sketchbooks ask them to make notes about compositional elements, use of typefaces, use of colour, and use of text (e.g. taglines, movie title, actors etc.). What is their effect? Does it make you want to see the film or not?

MAIN ATTRACTION: DESIGN YOUR OWN GOTHIC HORROR MOVIE POSTER

Give students the list of movie titles and let them choose one from which to make a poster. Get them to think about what elements they might include, such as imagery, colour scheme, typefaces, taglines etc. They can also make up the names of actors, or choose their favourite stars.

You might want to extend this exercise by using other posters from favourite scary films.

END CREDITS: COMING TO A CINEMA NEAR YOU!

Get students to narrate the trailer for their film in the style of *The Mummy* trailer (you can find this on YouTube). Which ones are scary and which are less so?

Extras

Other Ideas

- This activity could be used to further explore gothic movie posters. In particular, students could analyse and compare posters from cinema's history and evaluate how movie posters for contemporary horror, such as Hammer's *The Woman in Black* (2012) films are different from those of the 50s or 60s.
- Check out Hammer online to find out more about the history of Hammer Horror and see more trailers and posters:
<http://www.hammerfilms.com/>

Watch

- *The Curse of Frankenstein* (dir. Terence Fisher, 1957)
- *The Curse of the Were-Rabbit* (dir. Nick Park & Steve Box, 2005)



Crazy Gothic Horror Film Titles

The Aztec Mummy Against the Humanoid Robot
Scorpius Gigantus
Flesh Eating Mothers
Please Don't Eat My Mother
Mama Dracula
My Mum's a Werewolf
The Granny
The Incredibly Strange Creatures Who Stopped Living and Became Mixed-Up Zombies!!?
Horror of the Blood Monsters
Santa Claws
Invasion of the Blood Farmers
Frankenstein Meets the Space Monsters
The Screaming Skull
Monster a-Go Go
Die Hard Dracula
Creepozoids
The Astro-Zombies
The Incredible 2-Headed Transplant
The Curse of the Screaming Dead
Face of the Screaming Werewolf
Mysterious Invader
Brain of Blood
Beast of the Yellow Night
Igor and the Lunatics
The Rats Are Coming! The Werewolves Are Here!
Hellementary: An Education in Death
Attack of the Flesh Devouring Space Worms from Outer Space
Blood Slaves of the Vampire Wolf
Help Me... I'm Possessed
Hide and Go Shriek
Robo Vampire
The Werewolf Vs. Vampire Women
Dracula has Risen from the Grave
Frankenstein Must be Destroyed
Vampire Circus
The House that Bled to Death