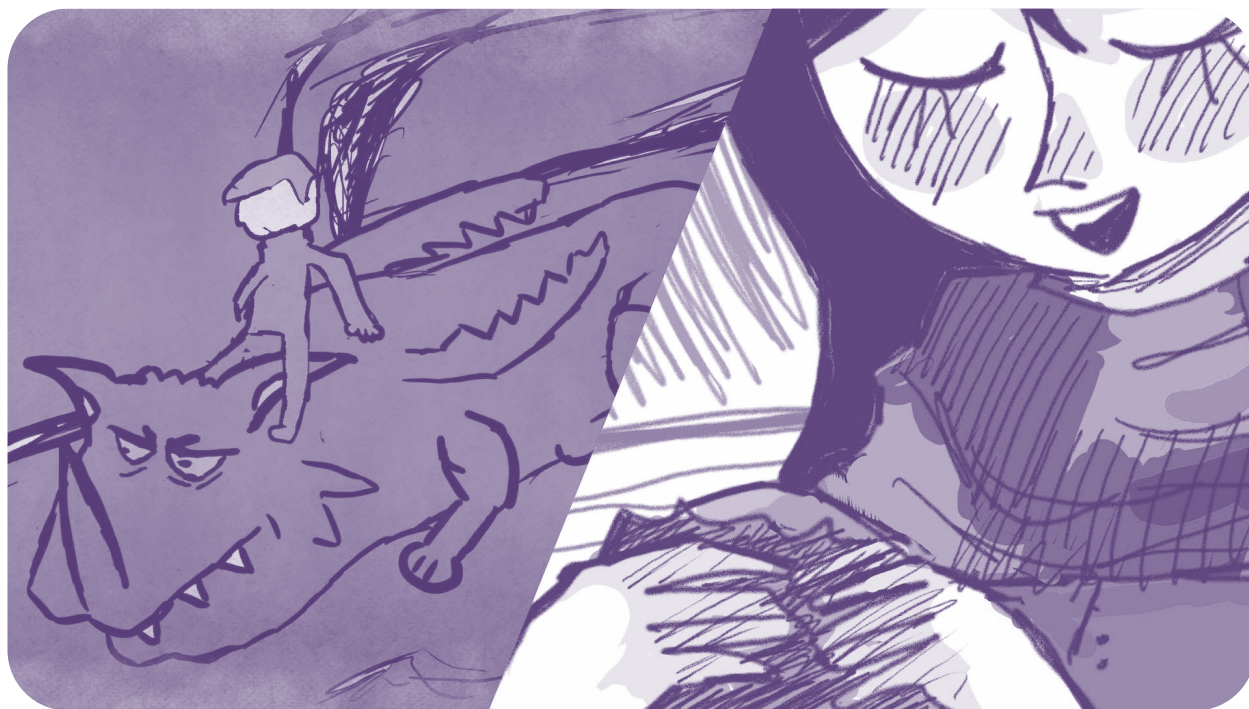


Educational material

# Dragon Tale / A Girl That Fed the Birds



**CLASS DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: 6th grade**

**TEACHING AREA: Culture and media**

**TEACHING UNIT: Dragon Tale, A Girl That Fed the Birds**

**CLASS TYPE: Analysis and interpretation of short animated films**

**DURATION OF A TEACHING UNIT: 45 minutes**

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- participates in the Digital Film EDUcation workshop organized by the Croatian Film Association
- attends a lecture in a digital environment
- notices the connection between film and the world that surrounds it
- recognizes feature film as a film genre
- recognizes the characteristics of film language
- expresses personal opinions and attitudes
- connects the theme of the film with everyday life

**KEY TERMS:**

soundscape, film title, shot (wide shot), comic strip, costume design, contrast

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**

- expresses personal feelings, attitudes and experiences
- connects previously acquired knowledge
- watches animated films
- expresses impressions after watching the film
- analyzes the film on stylistic and content levels by answering guided questions
- completes a quiz to self-evaluate knowledge

*DRAGON TALE*

School of Animated Film Dubrava, Zagreb, 2024

**MOTIVATION**

Conversation with the students

1. What do we call literary works in which imaginary creatures appear?
2. Do you enjoy reading them? Why?
3. Have you watched a film in which such creatures appear? If yes, what is the title of the film?

**THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FILM**

You will watch a short film Dragon Tale produced by the School of Animated Film Dubrava.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR WATCHING

1. Pay attention to the film's soundscape.
2. Pay attention to how the film title is designed.
3. Pay attention to how the contemporary world is introduced into the film.

## WATCHING THE FILM

## EXPRESSION OF STUDENT IMPRESSIONS

What do you think of the film? Be sure to provide arguments for your impressions.

## ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FILM

1. **How does the film begin?**  
With the logo of the School of Animated Film Dubrava.
2. **How is the film title designed?**
3. With letters whose font resembles ancient (medieval) times when texts were written by hand, and the first letter is additionally decorated.
4. **What follows after the film title?**  
A wide shot of a village being burned by the dragon's fire.
5. **Who is introduced in the following shots?**  
A medieval knight who wants to free the village from the dragon, and a king who orders him to kill the dragon.
6. **How is the contemporary world introduced into the film?**  
The knight searches for a weapon to kill the dragon, and among the weapons there is a bomb and a gun. However, in accordance with the medieval setting, he chooses a sword as a typical medieval weapon.
7. **Which imaginary creatures appear?**  
A dragon and a skeleton.
8. **How does the dragon manage to win the knight over to his side?**  
With gold.
9. **What is the main theme of the film?**  
The struggle for power.
10. **What is criticized in this film?**  
Corruption and the desire for power.
11. **What does the film's soundscape consist of?**  
Sound effects, speech and music.
12. **Which elements of the soundscape are present in this film?**  
Sound effects (for example, murmuring in the first shot when the village is burning).  
Non-diegetic medieval music (carefully selected to match the film's motifs).

## Dragon Tale / A Girl That Fed the Birds

### 13. How is speech replaced in this film?

With film titles.

### 14. How are the film titles designed? In which art form is this type of speech design found?

They are designed inside speech bubbles, which is typical of comic strips.

### *A GIRL THAT FED THE BIRDS*

Foto kino video klub Zaprešić, Zaprešić, 2024

## MOTIVATION

Conversation with the students

1. Do you notice birds around you?
2. Which types of birds do you notice?
3. Do you ever feed birds in the park?

## THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FILM

You will watch a short film A Girl That Fed the Birds produced by Foto Kino Video Club Zaprešić.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR WATCHING

1. Pay attention to the costume design.
2. Pay attention to the film's soundscape.

## WATCHING THE FILM

## EXPRESSION OF STUDENT IMPRESSIONS

What do you think of the film? Be sure to provide arguments for your impressions.

## ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE FILM

### 1. How does the film begin?

With the title and the sound of birds chirping, which introduces one of the key motifs.

### 2. How is the girl introduced?

From behind, followed by a shot of her walking, and then a closer shot revealing her face.

### 3. How is the girl dressed?

She wears coloured clothing, while the park (bench, trees) is black and white, introducing the stylistic figure of contrast. She is dressed in winter clothing, indicating that the setting is winter, when birds have more difficulty finding food (costume design helps establish the season).

## Dragon Tale / A Girl That Fed the Birds

**4. How is the bird introduced? What type of bird is it?**

With the sound of bird calls, followed by the appearance of a black bird in a medium shot.

A crow or a raven.

**5. How does the bird's behaviour change?**

It gently approaches the girl's hand holding a piece of bread, followed by a loud threatening bird sound, a zoom, the opening of the beak, and a cut.

**6. What is shown in the next shot?**

A wide shot of the forest and the girl on the bench being attacked by birds because of the food.

The entire image is now black and white.

**7. Did you expect this twist?**

Individual student responses.

**8. How does the film end?**

The girl, frightened, disheveled and in shock, sits on the bench.

## EVALUATION

- monitoring student activities while watching the film
- checking the understanding of the film by asking guided questions
- teaching sheet (quiz)

THE TEACHING SHEET (QUIZ) is available on the Film EDUcation website.