“Story artists are busy figuring out how to transform a written script into the particularly visual language of animated filmmaking”

- Blue Sky Studios
What is Story?

● More than just the story structure
● **Plot** : story beats or story structure
● **Story** : emotion of a story
  ○ What is the character feeling?
  ○ Why do they feel that way?
● **Key to story is empathy**
  ○ audience must feel what the character is feeling
Plot

The champ, Apollo Creed, needs a new opponent when his scheduled opponent pulls out due to injury. In a decision of promotional genius, Creed gives a title shot to down-on-his-luck journeyman Rocky Balboa on the country’s 200th anniversary. Rocky goes on to shock the world by going the distance with Creed in a competitive fight.

Story

Rocky, the underdog, overcomes great odds to find love and self-worth in going the distance with the champ.
**Plot Points**

**Setup**
- Present main character, environment, and the character’s goal

**Conflict**
- Main character is kept from their goal

**Climax**
- Usually a confrontation between the main character and their impediment

**Resolution**
- Whether or not the character completes their goal
Story Considerations

Why does Dorothy want to go home?
What does she do when placed in this new world?
Does she confront the Wicked Witch or shy away at first?
Is she proactive or reactive?

All of these help answer the same basic question:
What kind of person is Dorothy?
Examples

Big Hero 6 Character Study
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qop8bOTrNSk

Wall-E Meets
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XLIEqe2zabeQ

Clemson Shorts
http://www.cs.clemson.edu/vcadmin/dpa/
Character Design

Keep it simple

A simple design allows clearer silhouettes, and a faster “read”
Environment Design

For this project, try to keep it enclosed.

Examples:

● Inside a rock cluster
● A single room
● In a cave
Contact Sheets

Contact sheets help define what the character and environment will look like in terms of shape, color, and texture.
For Friday

At minimum:
- 4-panel Story Arc
- Character Contact Sheet
- Prop Sketch

Extra
- Environment Sketch
- Character Orthographic Views
- Color Script
- Character Poses