

Foley In Action

Introduction

In this lesson, students will learn how foley artists create sounds for enhancing the soundscape of a film and produce foley for a short film clip.

Lesson Time

4 class periods: 60 minutes

- Students will understand the elements of sound design, including foley and ambient audio.
- Students will successfully produce and mix an audio soundtrack for a film clip.

Activities in this Lesson

Laser Blast

Hooks / Set

Ask the students the following question:

"What sound does a laser blast, or laser gun make?"

(Teacher waits for the students to stop making creative laser sounds)

The teacher then says, "**Lasers are actually silent...light has no sound, yet we all think of lasers as having sound. Why do you think we all have a sound in our heads for lasers?**"

Answer: Because of movies, and specifically, FOLEY ARTISTS.

Show the short 2-minute video, "**Laser Blast Foley.**"

The man in the video is a Foley Artist. Foley artists produce sounds for use in films. These can be anything from footsteps, doors opening/closing, breaking glass, etc. The best foley sounds are incorporated so well into the film the audience does not notice. Foley helps create a sense of reality in the scene. If the films we watched didn't have foley, most films would be unnaturally silent. Props on a film set do not react the same way acoustically as they would in real life, mostly because what is important is the dialogue. Foley sounds can enhance the auditory experience of a film. Foley can also be used to cover up unwanted sounds recorded during production, like a plane flying overhead. Foley can also be used where no sounds existed, like a laser blast, for example.

Resources and Materials

[-Laser Blast Foley](#)

World of Avatar

Lecture

Show the short, "**The Sound of Avatar.**"

Ask students to take out their handout **Sound for Film** and identify 3 examples from the handout that were in this film or the Laser Blast film clip. Call on students to share their answers.

Resources and Materials

[Sound for Film Handout](#)

Do It Yourself

Independent Practice

Show the film, "**Be Your Own Foley Artist.**" This film shows how to create foley sounds for a film. When the film is over, tell the students they will now become foley artists.

Group students into pairs, 3 is OK, and give them the **Martial Arts film** and have them record their own foley for the film. They can use the techniques as outlined in the film or they can experiment with their own design. All the audio used in the film must be produced by the students. They should not be using any pre-produced audio other than a short music clip, if wanted. Give them two days to record and mix the audio tracks.

Resources and Materials

[Be your own foley artist](#)

[Create your own Foley](#)

Assessment

Assessment Types: Rubrics, Projects

Students will produce Foley for a pre-produced video.

Students will be assessed by rubric.

Resources and Materials

[ADR/Foley Rubric](#)