



Brush Ninja Teacher Guides

<https://brush.ninja/>

Contents

[1. Running Your First Animation Lesson](#)

Run a complete lesson from start to finish.

[2. No-Login Classroom Setup](#)

Keep setup simple and avoid accounts or passwords.

[3. Device and Browser Requirements](#)

Check your devices will work and avoid common issues.

[4. Managing Student Files](#)

Help students save, name, and organise their work.

[5. Collecting, Sharing, and Celebrating Student Work](#)

Use your existing systems to collect and organise work.

[6. Giving Feedback on Animations](#)

Give clear, useful feedback that supports learning.

[7. Exporting and Submitting Work](#)

Make sure work is saved, submitted, and not lost.

1. Running Your First Animation Lesson

Run a complete lesson from start to finish.

Animation can feel intimidating if you have never taught it before, but short looping GIFs are one of the easiest ways to introduce animation in the classroom.

Students can create something satisfying within a single lesson, even with limited devices or experience. The focus is not artistic perfection. It is experimentation, sequencing, and communicating an idea through movement.

This chapter shows how to run a simple animation lesson using Brush Ninja in a single class. Students create a short [looping animation](#) and export it as a [GIF](#).

It's designed to be quick to run, easy to set up, and flexible enough for different ages and settings.

Who this works for

This lesson works well for ages 7-14 (KS2-KS3), but older students can take the same structure further. It also works well for clubs and home learning.

What you'll need

Students need access to a device with a modern browser and internet connection. This could be a Chromebook, laptop, tablet, or desktop computer. You can use phones but the smaller screen makes it a bit fiddly for animation.

To collect work, you may want a shared folder, Padlet, or learning platform, although this isn't essential. Students don't need Brush Ninja accounts to take part.

Lesson structure

A typical lesson fits into 40-60 minutes:

- 5 minutes introducing the idea and showing examples
- 10 minutes demonstrating the basics
- 20-30 minutes for students to create

- 5-10 minutes to export and share

Before the lesson

Before you begin, open the [Animation Maker](#) and create a simple 4-6 frame animation yourself. Export it as a GIF so you have a clear example to show.

Decide how students will submit their work. This could be through your LMS, a shared folder, or a Padlet board.

It also helps to prepare a simple prompt such as a bouncing ball, a waving flag, or a growing flower.

How the animation tool works



How to Create a GIF with Brush Ninja

Running the lesson

Introduce the task

Explain the goal in one sentence:

Make a short looped animation that clearly shows an idea.

Simple ideas work best in a first lesson. A bouncing ball, waving hand, growing flower, blinking eye, or

moving rocket all teach the core idea of [frame-by-frame animation](#) without overwhelming students.

Show a couple of simple examples from the [gallery](#). Keep them easy to understand and avoid anything too complex.

Let students know what success looks like. A good animation should loop smoothly, be easy to follow, and export correctly as a GIF.

Demonstrate the basics

Open the [Animation Maker](#) and show how to:

- draw a simple shape
- add a new frame
- make a small change to show movement
- play the animation
- adjust [timing](#)
- export as a GIF

Keep your demo simple. One object is enough.

Student creation time

Give students a clear constraint. This helps them get started quickly and avoid overcomplicating things.

You might limit them to 4-6 frames, a single object, or a simple looping idea.

As they work, check that they are:

- using multiple frames
- changing the drawing each time
- playing back their animation
- aiming for a clear loop

Export and share

Ask students to export their animation as a GIF.

They can submit their work through your chosen platform. If time is short, focus on getting a working export rather than polishing.

Common beginner animation mistakes

Many students redraw the entire picture on every frame. This often creates flickering and makes the animation harder to control.

Encourage students to keep most of the drawing the same and only change the part that moves.

Students also tend to make movements too small. If the animation does not appear to move clearly, ask them to exaggerate the changes between frames.

Classroom tips

Short animations work best. Around 4–8 frames is usually enough to show an idea clearly. Simple drawings are often more effective than detailed ones.

If devices are limited, students can work in pairs, with one drawing and one directing, then swapping roles.

Using a timer can also help keep things moving.

Differentiation

Students who need more support can recreate a teacher example first before creating their own idea. This helps them focus on understanding the process rather than inventing a concept at the same time.

More confident students can experiment with timing, camera movement, short stories, or transformations between objects.

Common problems

If animations don't look like they move, encourage bigger changes between frames.

If they flicker or feel messy, remind students to keep drawings consistent and move one part at a time.

If exporting fails, ask them to try again and check their Downloads folder.

Reflection

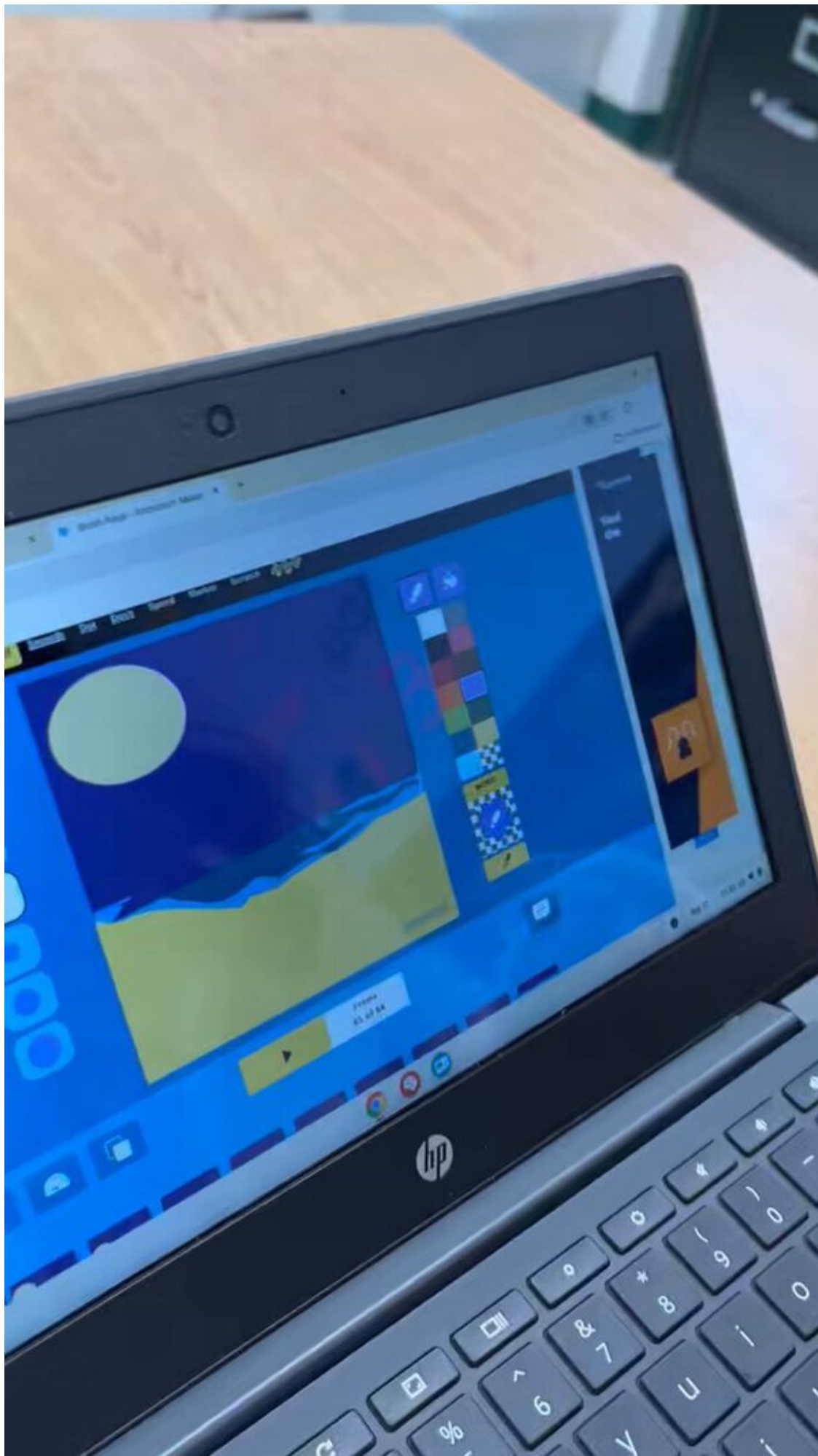
End with a quick prompt. Ask what they changed between frames, what they would improve, or what they learned by making the animation.

A short reflection is enough to turn the activity into a learning moment.

Extensions

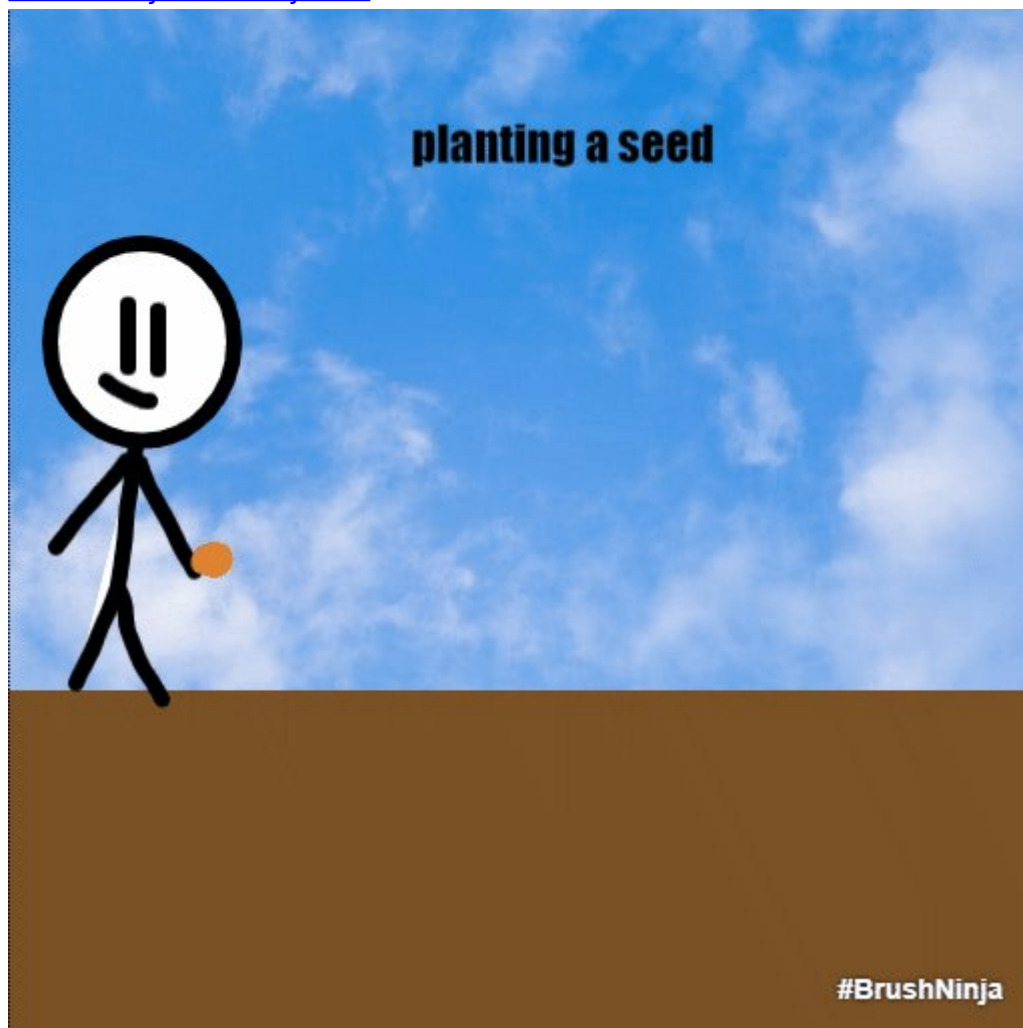
Students can build on this by creating explanation GIFs, simple sequences, or a short story across multiple frames.

Classroom examples



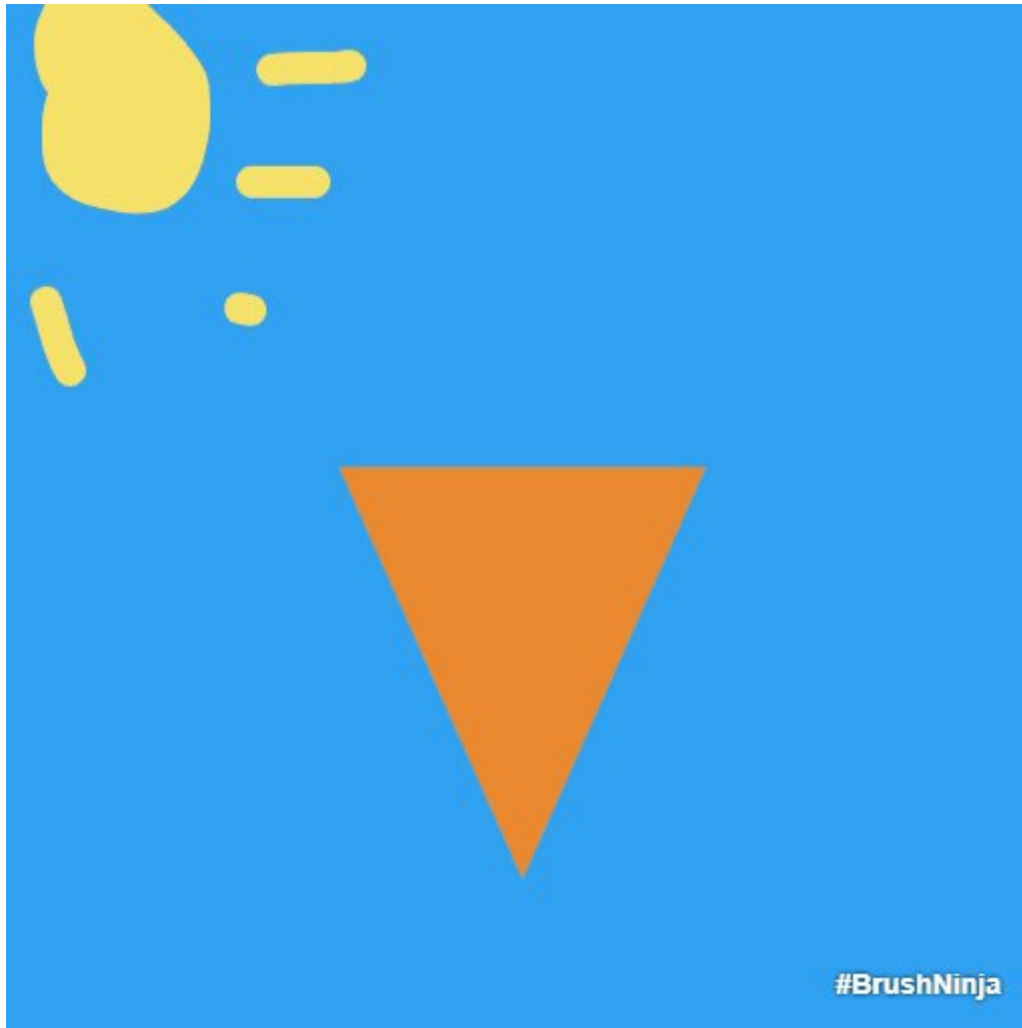
Making our mark on International Dot Day-ish with [Brush Ninja](#) Animation Maker!

[Tweeted by Rosemary Lara](#)



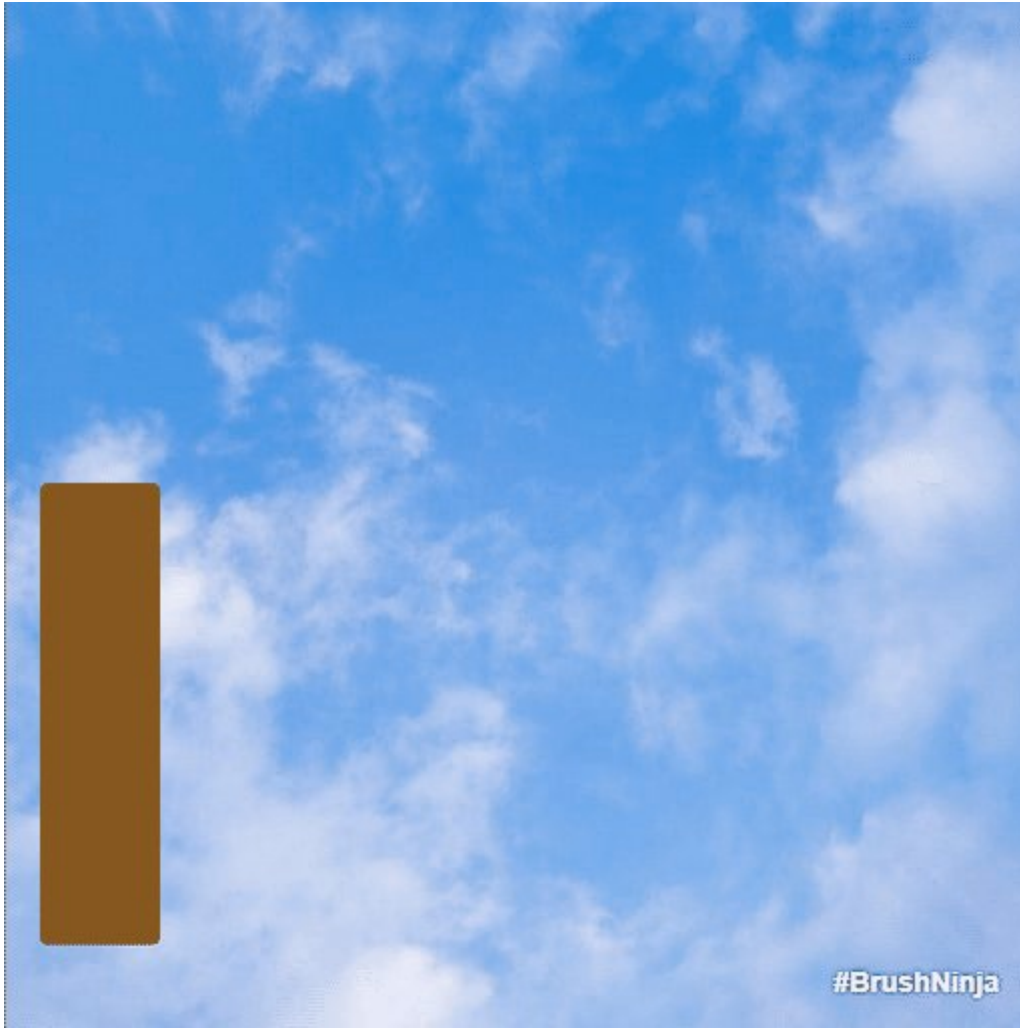
Here's some fantastic GIF animations created by some of @esmsedinburgh's P5 classes using [Brush Ninja](#) - a moon invasion and time-lapse plant growing cartoon! Totally normal thing to say in this job ☐

[Tweeted by Mr Rigby](#)



When the ice cream van has visited the school playground it must be the last week of school term in Scotland! Enjoy the summer holidays!

[Tweeted by Heather Haynes](#)



Wait for the end...Stewart's Melville College @esmsedinburgh becomes Hogwarts @harrypotter!
Animation creativity through a 9 year old child's eyes.

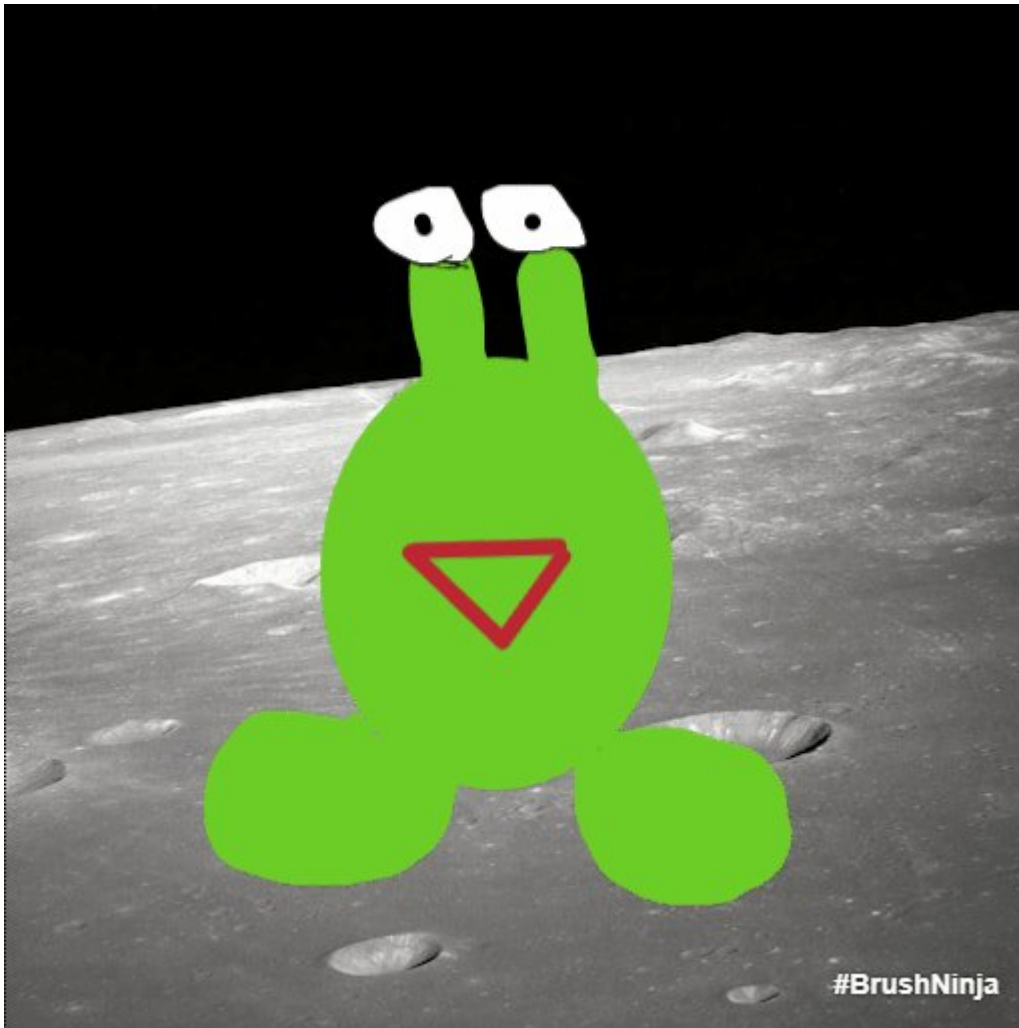
[Tweeted by Heather Haynes](#)



#BrushNinja

Space Science is a favourite topic of young children! Recent launches by @SpaceX and @BoeingSpace keep their interest alive and I love that we provide space related learning opportunities well after the formal curriculum topic ends. Every mission shapes their future! Exciting!

[Tweeted by Heather Haynes](#)



Crazy animation week with Primary 5 at @esmsedinburgh

[Tweeted by Heather Haynes](#)

[See more classroom examples →](#)

See also

- [Animation Maker](#)
- [Classroom animation examples](#)
- [How to create a GIF](#)
- [Animation glossary](#)

2. No-Login Classroom Setup

Keep setup simple and avoid accounts or passwords.

Many creative tools assume every student has an account, email address, or online profile. In schools, this often creates unnecessary barriers.

Brush Ninja is designed to work well without logins, which makes it easier to use in primary classrooms, shared computer rooms, clubs, and short workshops.

This chapter explains how to run Brush Ninja in the classroom without student accounts. Most schools use it this way, as it keeps lessons simple and avoids unnecessary setup.

If you've already run your first lesson, this shows how to make that process smooth and repeatable.

Why this works well

Using Brush Ninja without accounts removes many common classroom issues. There are no passwords to manage, no forgotten logins, and no shared profiles.

Students can open the tool, create their work, and export it straight to their device. Student work is not uploaded to Brush Ninja, and students do not need to create profiles. This keeps lessons focused on making rather than administration.

How it works

When students use Brush Ninja without logging in, their work exists only on the device they are using. While they are working, it is stored temporarily in the browser. Once exported, it becomes a file saved locally.

Students then submit their work using your normal classroom systems.

A simple classroom workflow

In most lessons, the process looks like this:

1. Students open [Brush Ninja](#) on their device
2. They create their work
3. They export the final file
4. They submit it using your usual system

There's no setup or accounts required beyond sharing the link.

Common teacher concerns

Teachers often worry that students will lose work without accounts. In practice, simple export routines are usually enough.

Most classrooms already use systems for collecting files, so Brush Ninja fits into existing workflows rather than replacing them.

Typical classroom setups

Different schools use Brush Ninja in different ways:

- one device per student
- paired work on shared laptops
- tablet trolleys
- Chromebook classrooms
- clubs and workshops
- home learning

The same export-based workflow works well across all of these environments.

Working on shared devices

On shared or temporary devices, students should always export their work before logging out. Browser storage may be cleared automatically, so it should not be relied on.

For longer projects, saving `.brushninja` files locally can help students return to their work later. Clear instructions and regular reminders are usually enough to prevent problems.

Using starter files

Some teachers prepare starter files in advance. These are `.brushninja` files that students can open and edit.

They might include backgrounds, diagrams, or simple templates to help students get started quickly. These files can be shared directly, and students can use them without needing accounts.

When accounts might be useful

Most classes do not need accounts. In some cases, a teacher account can be useful for preparing templates, storing personal work, or creating reusable resources.

Even then, students do not need to log in.

Common problems

If students cannot find their work, check the Downloads folder and search by file name.

If work disappears, it is usually because the page was refreshed. Encourage exporting early and often.

If files are saved to the wrong account or location, remind students to use local downloads rather than shared browser profiles.

If the animation is corrupted and you have an exported GIF or a saved `.brushninja` file, you can usually recover the work by opening it in the editor.

Safeguarding and privacy

Using Brush Ninja without logins means there are no student profiles, no public posting, and no central storage of student work.

This aligns well with most school safeguarding policies. For more detail, see the [For Schools page](#) and the [Privacy Policy](#).

See also

- [For Schools](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Managing Student Files](#)
- [Exporting and Submitting Work](#)

3. Device and Browser Requirements

Check your devices will work and avoid common issues.

Brush Ninja is intentionally lightweight and works on most school devices, including older laptops and Chromebooks commonly found in classrooms.

This chapter explains which devices and browsers work best with Brush Ninja, and how to avoid common technical issues in the classroom.

If you're unsure whether your setup will work, this should give you a clear answer.

What you need

Brush Ninja runs entirely in a web browser and does not require any software installation.

Students need a modern browser, an internet connection, and a way to interact with the screen, such as a mouse, trackpad, or touch input. No plugins, extensions, or downloads are required to get started.

A five-minute test before class

Before teaching with a new set of devices, try creating and exporting a very small animation yourself.

This quickly confirms that:

- the site loads correctly
- drawing tools work
- downloads are allowed
- exported [GIFs](#) can be opened

A quick test prevents most technical surprises later.

Recommended browsers

Brush Ninja works best in modern, up-to-date browsers. In most schools, Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge provide the most reliable experience. Firefox and Safari on macOS and iPadOS also

work well.

Keeping browsers updated is important, as older versions can cause issues with saving, exporting, or performance.

Very old browsers, such as Internet Explorer, are not supported. Systems that block downloads or browser storage may also prevent students from saving their work.

Chromebooks

Brush Ninja works well on Chromebooks and is widely used in schools.

Most issues are related to downloads and permissions rather than the app itself. Students should be able to download files and access the Files app to find their work.

If downloads do not appear, check that the school profile allows image and GIF files. Some managed accounts block these by default.

If animations feel slow, reducing the number of frames or canvas size usually solves the problem.

Windows and macOS computers

Brush Ninja runs well on most modern laptops and desktop computers.

Current versions of Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or Safari provide the best experience. Typical school devices with around 4GB of memory are sufficient for most projects.

A mouse or trackpad works well for drawing, and graphics tablets can be used if they are already set up.

Tablets and touch devices

Brush Ninja supports touch input and works on tablets, including iPads and Android devices.

On iPads, Safari and Chrome both work well on recent versions of iPadOS. A stylus can improve control, but it is not required. Android tablets also work in Chrome, although performance varies depending on the device.

Smaller screens can feel more restrictive, especially for longer projects, and file management can be less straightforward.

Shared and managed devices

On shared computers, students should always export their work before logging out. Browser storage may be cleared automatically, so it should not be relied on.

If a device resets or a session ends, any unexported work may be lost. Exporting regularly is the safest approach.

Network and filtering

Brush Ninja needs access to the [main website](#) and the ability to download files.

If the site does not load or exporting fails, check web filters, firewall rules, or proxy settings. Some filtering systems may block downloads, media files, or browser features used by creative tools.

Storage and downloads

Student work is saved as files on the device being used.

Make sure downloads are allowed, the Downloads folder is accessible, and students know where their files are saved. On cloud-based systems, they may need to move files into their usual storage location after downloading.

Performance

For smooth performance, it helps to keep animations relatively simple. Very large canvases or long animations with many frames can slow down older devices.

Closing unused tabs and restarting slow devices can also help. Most simple projects run well, even on modest hardware.

More optimisation tips are available in the [Performance Guide](#).

Accessibility

Students can work with a mouse, touch screen, stylus, or trackpad. Some students find touch input easier, while others benefit from larger screens and precise pointing devices.

Activities can also be adapted by reducing drawing complexity and focusing on simple movement rather than detailed artwork.

If students use assistive technology, it is worth testing activities in advance and adjusting tasks where needed.

You can read more in the [accessibility statement](#) or download the VPAT below.

[Download the Brush Ninja VPAT \(PDF\)](#)

Quick checklist before a lesson

Before running a lesson, check that:

- The site loads on all devices
- Browsers are up to date
- Downloads are enabled
- At least one test export works

A quick check here can prevent most issues.

Common problems

- If the page is blank, try refreshing, checking filters, or switching browsers.
- If buttons are missing, update the browser or reset zoom to 100%.
- If files are not saving, check download permissions and folder access.
- If performance is slow, reduce frames, close tabs, or restart the device.
- If touch input feels inaccurate, zoom in or use a stylus if available.

When to involve IT support

You may need IT support if downloads are blocked, browser storage is disabled, the site is filtered, or student profiles reset frequently.

Sharing this guide with technical staff can help resolve issues more quickly.

See also

- [Performance optimisation guide](#)
- [Accessibility statement](#)
- [VPAT download](#)
- [Troubleshooting exporting problems](#)
- [Animation Maker](#)

4. Managing Student Files

Help students save, name, and organise their work.

File management is often the hardest part of creative digital lessons, especially for younger students. A few simple routines make a huge difference.

This chapter explains how to manage student work when using Brush Ninja without accounts.

Because files are saved on the device being used, students need simple habits for saving, naming, and finding their work. Once these are in place, most file-related problems disappear.

How saving works

Brush Ninja does not store student work on its servers.

While students are working, their project exists temporarily in the browser. Once they export, it becomes a file saved on the device.

Until that point, the work is temporary. Exporting regularly is the key to avoiding problems.

For more detail on exporting, see [Exporting and Submitting Work](#).

Why file names matter

Different tools handle file names differently. In the Animation Maker, students can usually choose a name before downloading. In other tools, files are created with a generic name.

Generic names are easy to overwrite and hard to organise. Renaming files is an important final step.

A simple naming format

Give students one format and reuse it consistently.

For example:

class-topic-name.ext

Such as:

- 6B-watercycle-sam.gif

- 8A-volcano-alex.png
- club-story-maya.pdf

Displaying this on the board and in instructions saves time later.

Saving vs. Exporting

Students often think saving and exporting are the same thing.

The Brush Ninja animation editor allows students to save their work as `.brushninja` files. These are project files that can be reopened in the editor for further editing.

Exporting creates a final file in a standard [file format](#) such as [GIF](#), [PNG](#), or [PDF](#). These can be shared or submitted. Saving is for ongoing work, while exporting is for finished work.

Where files are saved

On most devices, files are downloaded into a **Downloads** folder.

Students should know how to find this folder and rename files inside it. A quick demonstration early on usually prevents confusion later.

If you use cloud storage, show students how to move files from Downloads into their normal folders.

Working across multiple lessons

For longer projects, organisation becomes more important. Files should be saved with clear names and moved into folders for each project or class. This helps students find their work later and keeps things tidy. Brush Ninja may keep in-progress animations in the browser, but this should not be relied on. Regular saving will allow students to return to their work later, and also to move between devices if needed.

Students may create multiple versions. When downloading, browsers often add suffixes like “(1)” or “(2)”, which helps prevent overwriting.

On shared devices, files may be removed automatically when users log out. Do not rely on files staying on the device between sessions. Using shared folders or cloud storage is the safest option.

When files seem to be lost

When a student cannot find their work, start with one question:

Did you export it?

Most missing files are either still in Downloads or were never exported. Searching by file name usually helps.

On shared devices, files may have been cleared automatically.

Supporting younger students

For younger learners, file management can easily become harder than the creative task itself. Try to focus on shorter tasks that do not need multiple versions.

Paired work, clear demonstrations, and simpler expectations can help. In some cases, accepting a single final export or even a screenshot is enough.

Many teachers even film the computer screen during playback with a phone camera. This removes the need for file management entirely and also allows students to be in the video with their work.

In early sessions, it is often better to prioritise experimentation and discussion over perfect organisation. Technical routines can be introduced gradually over time.

Helpful classroom routines

Simple routines prevent most file problems:

- remind students to export before the end of the lesson
- display the file naming format on the board
- leave time for uploads and checks
- ask students to preview exported files before submitting

See also

- [Exporting and Submitting Work](#)
- [No-Login Classroom Setup](#)
- [Troubleshooting lost files](#)

5. Collecting, Sharing, and Celebrating Student Work

Use your existing systems to collect and organise work.

Sharing work gives animation lessons energy. Students often put more thought into their work when they know somebody else will see it.

This chapter explains how to collect student files, share finished animations, and use them for discussion, reflection, and display.

Students export their work as files and submit it using your existing systems. With a simple, consistent process, this works reliably across most classrooms.

The core workflow

The simplest workflow is:

1. Export the finished file
2. Rename it clearly
3. Upload or share it
4. Check it has appeared in the right place

This keeps collection simple and works with most school systems.

Choosing how to collect work

Use the system students already know.

Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, Seesaw, Showbie, shared folders, school drives, and learning platforms can all work well. The tool matters less than the routine.

For assessment, use your normal submission platform. For discussion or celebration, a digital noticeboard such as Padlet can work better because students can see each other's work more easily.

Email works for very small groups, but it quickly becomes difficult to manage.

Teaching the submission process

Many problems happen because students are unsure what “submit” involves.

It helps to demonstrate the full process once. Show how to export, where the file is saved, how to rename it, how to upload it, and how to confirm that it worked.

A short checklist in your LMS or classroom can reinforce this.

File naming and organisation are covered in [Managing Student Files](#).

Sharing work in class

Sharing does not need to take long. A short five-minute review can work well at the end of a lesson.

Choose two or three examples and ask the class to notice something specific, such as:

- how movement is shown
- how timing affects the animation
- how clearly the idea is communicated
- how the animation loops

This keeps the discussion focused on learning rather than simply choosing favourites.

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- how the animation loops

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Creating collections

Over time, it can be useful to build collections of student work.

Create folders by class, topic, date, or project. Keep final versions separate from drafts so it is easy to find examples later.

These collections can support displays, revision, parent evenings, future lessons, or examples for the next class.

Checking submissions quickly

When collecting lots of animations, do a quick first check before reviewing the work properly.

Check that:

- the file opens
- the animation plays
- the student uploaded the right version
- the file name makes sense
- nothing obvious is missing

This quick check catches practical problems before you start giving feedback or marking.

Managing larger groups

When collecting work from a whole class, small inconsistencies quickly become annoying.

Consistent file names, clear folders, and a single submission location make review much easier. It also helps to set a deadline for final versions so you are not sorting drafts, duplicates, and unfinished files later.

Supporting students with submission

Some students find digital submission difficult, especially if they are working across downloads, cloud storage, and classroom platforms.

A live demonstration helps. Show the full journey from export to upload, then ask students to check their final file before they finish.

For younger students, pair them up so one student follows the instructions while the other checks each step.

Common problems

If work appears to be missing, check whether it was exported first. Most missing files are still in Downloads or were never exported.

If students upload the wrong version, ask them to preview the file before submitting.

If a platform rejects a file, check the file type and size. Some systems limit GIFs or large images. In that case, students may need to simplify the animation, export again, or convert GIFs to MP4 videos if supported.

See also

- [Educational animation gallery](#)
- [GIF to MP4 converter](#)
- [Giving Feedback on Animations](#)
- [Managing Student Files](#)
- [Lesson plans](#)

6. Giving Feedback on Animations

Give clear, useful feedback that supports learning.

This chapter looks at how to give clear, useful feedback on student animations.

Animation is a powerful way for students to explain ideas, but much of the learning comes from reflection as well as creation. Good feedback helps students understand what worked, what needs improving, and what to try next.

Why feedback matters

Animation combines drawing, sequencing, timing, and explanation. Without feedback, students often judge success by how the animation looks.

With feedback, they begin to think about clarity, accuracy, and communication. This turns creative output into evidence of learning rather than just a finished product.

Setting expectations early

Feedback works best when students know what you are looking for before they start.

At the beginning of a task, define a small number of success criteria. For example, whether the idea is clear, whether the movement is easy to follow, whether the animation loops smoothly, and whether the content is accurate.

Keep these visible and refer back to them during the lesson.

A simple feedback structure

A consistent structure helps both teachers and students:

What works → What could improve → What to try next

This keeps feedback balanced and actionable. Short, specific comments are usually more effective than longer explanations.

Example animation feedback comments

Here are some examples of feedback comments that focus on the learning goals of animation:

- “The movement is very clear because the object changes position in each frame.”
- “Try slowing this section down so the action is easier to follow.”
- “The loop works well because the final frame connects smoothly back to the start.”
- “Consider simplifying the background so the movement stands out more clearly.”

Feedback during lessons

During creation time, brief conversations are often the most effective form of feedback.

Simple questions such as “What is happening here?” or “What should the viewer notice?” prompt reflection without interrupting work. These moments help students catch issues early.

Avoid taking control of the work. The aim is to guide thinking, not fix the animation. For short classroom activities, feedback should stay lightweight and focused.

A quick verbal conversation during the lesson is often more valuable than detailed written comments afterwards.

Feedback on submitted work

When reviewing exported animations, focus on a small number of points.

A useful rule is one positive observation, one improvement suggestion, and one next step. Referring to a specific moment in the animation helps students understand exactly what you mean.

Peer feedback

Peer feedback can be valuable when expectations are clear.

Model what helpful feedback looks like and use a simple structure, such as one strength, one improvement, and one question. Keep early sessions short and focused.

Using gallery sessions

Short gallery-style sessions work well with animation.

Students view each other's work and respond to prompts. This helps them see different approaches and develop visual awareness.

These sessions work best when they are time-limited and linked to clear criteria.

Feedback on process

Some students work hard but struggle to produce polished results.

Make sure feedback recognises effort, progress, testing, and problem-solving, not just the final outcome. Students who experiment and refine their work are developing valuable creative skills, even if the final animation remains simple.

Managing workload

Digital work can quickly become time-consuming to mark.

To keep feedback manageable, rotate focus groups, give detailed feedback on selected tasks, and use whole-class feedback for common issues.

Not every piece of work needs detailed individual feedback.

Making feedback useful

Feedback is most effective when it connects to the next task.

Encourage students to review previous comments, choose one thing to improve, and apply it in their next animation.

See also

- [Animation principles glossary](#)
- [Classroom animation examples](#)
- [Lesson plans](#)
- [Running Your First Animation Lesson](#)

7. Exporting and Submitting Work

Make sure work is saved, submitted, and not lost.

This chapter explains how to turn student work into finished files and submit it reliably.

Because Brush Ninja does not store projects on its servers, exporting is essential. Until a file is exported, the work only exists temporarily in the browser.

Leave time for exporting

Exporting and uploading always takes longer than students expect.

Try to leave at least five minutes at the end of the lesson for:

- exporting
- renaming files
- checking playback
- uploading submissions

What exporting means

When students export their work, the app creates a file and downloads it to the device being used. This file can then be uploaded, shared, or stored like any other document.

If the page refreshes or the device logs out before exporting, the work may be lost. Exporting should be treated as part of completing the task, not as an optional extra.

When to export

Most problems happen when students leave exporting until the end of the lesson.

Encourage exporting during longer sessions, after major changes, and at the end of each lesson. This creates simple backups and reduces the risk of lost work.

A clear reminder helps:

No export means no submission.

Exporting animations

The Animation Maker exports work as animated GIF files.

Students export by choosing the download option, selecting GIF format, entering a clear file name, and saving the file. Once exported, they should open the file to check that it plays correctly.

Larger or more detailed animations may take a few seconds to export.

Exporting other work

Other Brush Ninja tools export images, PDFs, or documents.

These files are often given generic names, so renaming is important. For more on naming and organisation, see [Managing Student Files](#).

File formats

Different tools produce different file types. Most animation work will be GIFs, while drawings are usually PNG or JPG, and comics may be PDFs.

Be clear about which format you expect for each task. This avoids incompatible uploads and unnecessary resubmissions.

Where files are saved

On most devices, exported files are saved in the Downloads folder.

Students should know how to open this folder, find recent files, and rename them if needed. On tablets, files may appear in a Files app or download manager.

Preview before submitting

Students should open and preview exported files before submitting them.

This helps catch all sorts of issues, such as:

- incomplete exports
- wrong file types
- missing animation
- accidental blank frames

Submitting work

Once exported, students submit their files using your usual systems.

The exact method will vary, but the process is always the same: upload the file and check that it appears correctly. Students should confirm their submission before finishing.

Teaching the full process

Students often struggle because they only learn part of the workflow.

Demonstrate the full sequence clearly:

Export → Rename → Preview → Upload → Check

Repeating this consistently helps it become routine.

Shared devices

On shared computers and Chromebooks, storage may be temporary.

Students should export and submit work within the same lesson wherever possible. Do not rely on files remaining on the device between sessions.

File size and performance

Large files can be slow to upload or may be rejected by some systems.

If this happens, reducing the number of frames, lowering the canvas size, or simplifying the animation usually helps.

Student submission checklist

Before finishing, students should check:

- the file has exported
- the file has a clear name
- the animation opens correctly
- the correct version has been uploaded
- the submission appears in the right place

Common problems

- If an export fails, try again or refresh the page.
- If a file will not open, check the format and try opening it in a browser.
- If a file cannot be found, check the Downloads folder first.
- If a file uploads but does not play correctly, re-export and preview before submitting again.

Classroom routines

Simple routines make exporting reliable.

Five-minute export warnings, clear file naming rules, and end-of-lesson checks prevent most problems. Consistency is more important than strict rules.

Bringing it all together

At this point, you have a complete workflow:

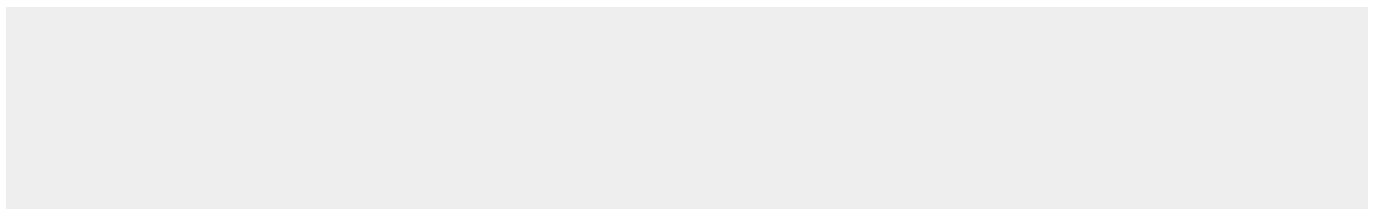
Students create work, export it, organise files, submit them, and receive feedback.

Once these routines are in place, lessons run more smoothly and students can focus on the creative and learning aspects of animation.

Where to go next

You can now extend this into longer projects, cross-curricular work, or more creative tasks.

Explore more ideas in the teaching guides or try building a sequence of lessons using the same workflow.



See also

- [Managing Student Files](#)
- [GIF to MP4 converter](#)
- [Device and Browser Requirements](#)
- [Troubleshooting exports](#)
- [Animation glossary](#)

About Brush Ninja

Brush Ninja is a free online animation tool for education. It is designed to be simple and accessible, while still powerful enough for creative expression, storytelling, and learning.

Brush Ninja is developed by [Ben Gillbanks](#), a developer and digital creator based in the UK. It is supported by donations from users and organisations. If you find it useful, please consider [supporting the project](#) to help keep it free for everyone.

Guide Feedback

If you have any feedback on this guide, please [get in touch](#) to share your thoughts and suggestions.