

Read about the making of Valiant. Read the text then discuss the questions below with your group.

Animation Flies Home

The UK's animation industry is leading the way for low-cost innovative CGI (computer generated image) technology with big productions such as Valiant.

Well established as the site of major family-oriented film production, with films such as Harry Potter, the UK is fast becoming the centre of a digital animation and effects industry. Projects such as The New Captain Scarlet TV series, and the hit movie Valiant are attracting Hollywood and other international investment. The current worth of the global digital animation and special effects industry is expected to be in excess of \$70bn.

Animation is associated with some of the most exciting and financially successful movies of recent years: from the groundbreaking Toy Story to Shrek and The Incredibles. Yet none of these CGI (computer generated image) blockbusters have been made outside of Hollywood – until now. Valiant, a new family film, about the life of a plucky carrier pigeon in the Second World War, was made entirely in Britain, using a purpose-built animation facility at London's famous Ealing Studios.

- Compared to the Hollywood blockbusters, was Valiant an expensive film to make?
- What's Valiant about?
- Do you think it's important to have famous people as the voices of animated characters? Why / not?
- Do you prefer digital animation or old-fashioned animation? Why?