



4-H Filmmaking Workshop Video 10: Storytelling with Editing

Script

Morissa: [0:02] This film is brought to you by 4-H, America's largest youth development organization, in collaboration with Montana State University and TERRApod. [0:15] [music]

Emily: [0:19] Most people think editing is all about being computer-savvy, that it's all about pushing buttons. But it's actually a part of the storytelling process. Careful and creative editing can help your story really come to life. [0:32] Now, there are a couple of things that we want to think about during editing. The first is, what is our story? And the second is, what are our editing tools? Now, every good story has a beginning, middle, and end.

[0:45] [music]

Emily: [0:52] Also, good stories have some type of conflict. Now, this doesn't mean a fight between two people, necessarily. It could be a conflict between an object and a person, like a person climbing a mountain. [1:04] [music]

Emily: [1:07] Good stories also have character development. And conflict can be part of the character development. And you want to think about suspense in your story. You don't want to reveal everything in the beginning; you want to build up so that it pays off in the end. [1:23] [music]

Emily: [1:29] Now, when we're thinking about editing tools, you really want to consider your pacing, which is how fast or slow your sequence is happening. You want to try to match it to natural rhythms, like breathing or heartbeats or music. [1:46] [music]

Emily: [1:48] Some of the best advice I ever got was to edit to music. This really helps when you're thinking about how long to make a clip or when to cut it. [1:57] [music]

Emily: [2:01] Now, Marissa already talked about match cuts, and you want to keep this in mind for seamless editing. [2:08] [music]

Emily: [2:11] B-roll is something that we use to cover up a talking-head shot in a documentary interview. [2:16] [music]

Emily: [2:20] Now, B-roll usually references something in the movie. So, if an interviewee is talking about something like flowers, then we may cut to a shot of a field of beautiful flowers. And this you've heard before: shot variation. [2:37] [music]

Transcription by CastingWords

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