

From Book to Movie



THE OUTSIDERS

Making Movies

You've probably seen many movies, so you know that movies can be about many different things. Sometimes writers create an idea for a movie. At other times, ideas for movies come from books.

Any kind of book can be used to make a movie. Some books tell many stories the writer created. Others may be about real people and places.

When a movie is based on a book, movie-makers decide how closely to follow the book. They decide how the people and places in the book will look and which parts of the story they will show.

Key Notes:

What are some things movie makers have to decide before they make a movie?

Many movies are based on books, such as the movie *The Outsiders*.



The book and movie called *The Lord of the Rings* showed a fantasy world.

Making Fantasy Real

Some movies are based on fantasy books. In fantasy books, writers imagine a world of people and places that are not real. It is the job of the movie makers to show the world that the writer imagined.

When the three *Lord of the Rings* books were made into movies, it took about 300 different sets to show the fantasy world the writer had imagined. Although the books were more than 1,000 pages long, the three movies ran for only about 11 hours. That means that the movie makers had to show only the most important parts of the books.

Key Notes:

What are fantasy books?



Actors show
people's thoughts.

Showing Ideas and Feelings

Writers tell what people are thinking. However, when books are turned into movies, actors must show people's thoughts.

The book *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which was written by Harper Lee, was about a town in which white people were unfair to African Americans. *To Kill a Mockingbird* was made into a movie in 1962.

In her book, Harper Lee told how some white people in a town felt about African Americans. In the movies, actors showed these feelings. The difference between the book and the movie is that the book told about the unfairness while the movie showed it.

Key Notes:

What is the difference between telling about people's thoughts and showing them?



**Movies make comic
book characters
look real.**

From Comics to Movies

Many people love reading about brave comic book characters, like Batman. The first Batman comic book was printed in 1939. Since then, many movies have been made about this comic book character.

The difference between comic books and movies is that movies show comic book characters as living people, not drawings on a page. Actors can show more feelings than drawings can. Movies can also show actors doing things that look real, like Batman speeding through the air in a flying car. Comic books, though, cost less and can be read at any time and anywhere.

Key Notes:

How are comic books different from movies?

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