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Part 1: Ready on the Set (6 sessions)

Students explore the role of setting in movies and literary works and analyze how writers bring settings to life through details of time and place that engage the full range of senses.

Activity 1A: Setting the Stage

1A.1: Introducing the Unit	Students are introduced to the elements of setting by viewing a video clip from the opening of a film. They preview the unit and unit project—developing set designs for the movie version of a book they will read—and look over the Assessment Checklist.
(Optional) 1A.2: Exploring Sense Details	Students explore their own sense memories, using objects from home or the classroom that appeal to different senses. They participate in a "write around" focusing on the sensory details suggested by these objects.

Activity 1B: Setting in Literature and Movies

1B.1: Details, Details	Students are introduced to the literary work and begin their Setting Logs, in which they record the setting details from their reading and gather material for their set descriptions.
1B.2: What Is a Set Designer?	Students learn about the role of the set designer, and analyze an excerpt from a movie script to explore how movie set designers expand on the details provided by an author or screenwriter.
1B.3: What's the Big Idea?	Students meet in teams to analyze their Setting Log data and brainstorm about how to create detailed settings.

Part 2: Making It Reel (4 sessions)

Students use the setting information they've gathered in their Setting Logs and Set Design Team Folders to complete the unit project—an opening set description and design presentation for a setting from the story.

Activity 2A: Report to the Director

Teams select several settings from the book for which they would like to develop set designs, and explain their choices to the class.

Activity 2B: Developing the Set Design Presentation

Teams write, review, and revise their set descriptions. They prepare and deliver their set design presentations, including summaries of their settings' importance to the book. Students use the Assessment Checklist to evaluate their work, and discuss the unit as a class.