

# Maximize Your Storytelling Using a Multimedia Projector

by Edie Cunningham, Former BVI Associate Director

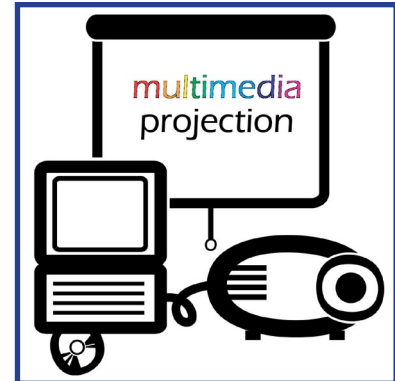
## Equipment:

Make certain your multimedia projector provides at least 1,000 to 2,000 lumens of light. If you are in a large conference room, classroom or auditorium, it would be best to use one that outputs 2,000 to 3,000 lumens. To increase the life of the projector lamp, make certain the projector is not turned off suddenly and that the fan cools the lamp.

Using the highest quality equipment will assure you that BVI's illustrations will be bright and colorful when projected. This is especially important if there are various competing light sources in the room where you are using the multimedia projector. Examples of competitive light sources:

- Large windows which flood the room with daylight
- Bright overhead lighting that cannot be dimmed

It is not necessary to turn off all the lights in the room when projecting visuals. However, if there are no curtains/blinds on the windows for darkening the room, it will help to turn off as many lights as possible.



## Advance Preparation:

- Prior to using the multimedia projector, visit the room to evaluate and correct potential lighting concerns.
- Test the equipment to make certain the images are sharp and focused.
- Position the projector so that the image will fill the screen as much as possible, without the image running off the screen edges.
- Reduce the keystone effect by tilting the bottom of the screen back toward the wall. This will create less distortion of the images for your audience.
- Practice telling the story while using the remote control to advance, scroll back, focus, enlarge and/or fade images on screen. Make certain that the action in the story matches the action on the screen.

## Presentation Tips:

- If your narrative continues beyond the subject of an illustration, fade the image with the remote control. If your multimedia projector does not include a fade button, then have your co-teacher hold a piece of paper over the lens at the appropriate time. The screen will darken, and no image will be seen.
- Make certain you do not stand between your audience and the images being projected on the screen.
- If your audience is larger than 100, the use of a public address system will ensure that your story will be conveyed and received in the best way by those present.

