

# HOW ARE MOVIE SOUND EFFECTS MADE?

Have you ever thought about the sounds you hear when you watch a movie? It might surprise you to learn that many of the noises you hear are recorded separately from the visuals! This is because even with a microphone, noises like footsteps and squeaky doors don't always sound the same on the **set of a film (place where film recording takes place)** as they do in real life. To make sound effects more realistic, they are recorded in a special sound studio called a **Foley studio**.



## What is Foley and how does it work?



The art of recording sound effects for movies is called **Foley**, named after **Jack Foley**—one of the first people to record sound effects for movies. **Foley artists** record in a special **Foley studio** on a **Foley stage**, a place with many different props and tools for recording sound effects. They watch the movie on a screen while recreating everyday noises by running, walking, and using props. For example:

- The sound of a **dog shaking dry** can be recreated using a **wet mop**.
- The sound of an elevator door can be made by **closing a filing cabinet while ringing a hotel reception bell**.
- A **horse running** sounds like **clapping two coconut shells together**.

# MAKE YOUR OWN MOVIE SOUND EFFECTS!

See if you can find different materials around your home that you can use to make your own movie sound effects. Use your imagination to pretend you are making your own movie using these sounds!



**Crackling fire:** Crinkle a cellophane (plastic) bag!



**Flipping through a wad of cash:**  
Shuffle a deck of cards!



**Walking in grass:** Shake a plastic bag with newspaper inside!



**Flapping bird wings:** Shake a pair of gloves!



**Bats flying or elephants shaking their ears:**  
Rustle a leather jacket!

