

Recipes4Success®

In this Recipe, you will create an animated science diagram of plant growth. You will learn how to add images, draw shapes, use the animation options, preview, and publish your project.

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Introduction

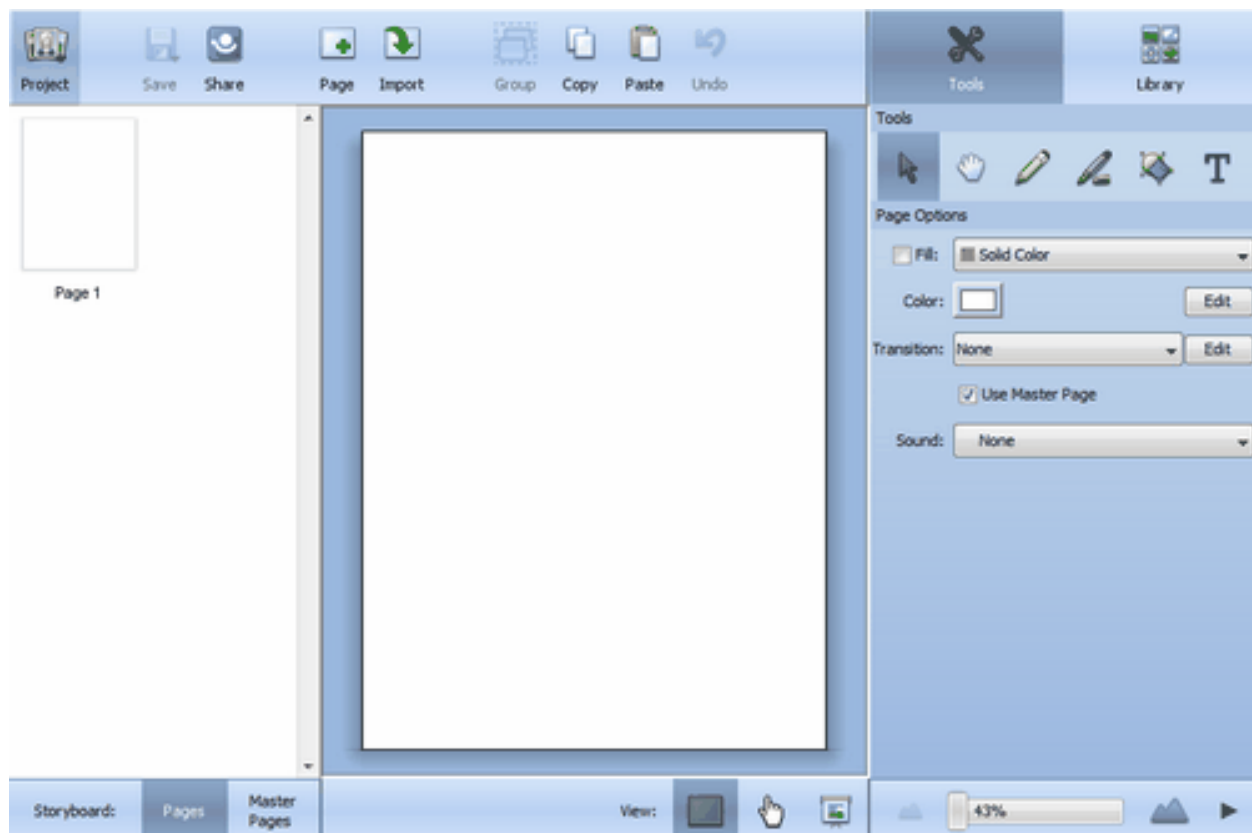
Click the Start menu button.



Choose All Programs, choose the Tech4Learning folder, choose the Share 4 folder, and select Share.

Share will open.

You will see a blank page.



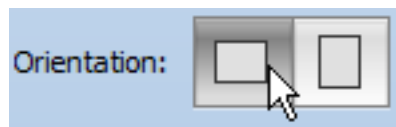
Change Page Orientation

You can change the orientation of the page in Share from a portrait to a landscape orientation.

Click the Master Pages button at the bottom of the storyboard.



Choose the landscape orientation in the Tools panel.



You will see the page orientation change in the preview area.

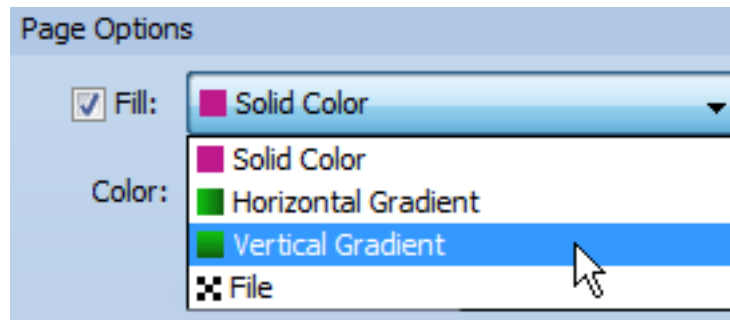
Click the Pages button at the bottom of the storyboard.



Add a Background Color

You can change the background for a page using the Fill options on the Tools panel.

Use the Fill pull-down menu to choose Vertical Gradient.

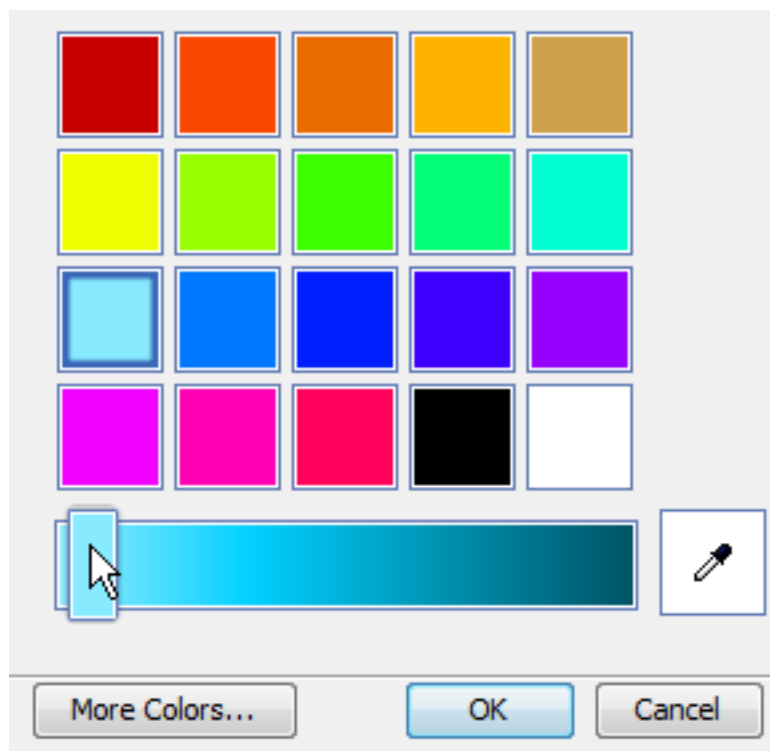


Click a Colors box to choose two blue colors for the sky. You will see a Select a Color dialog.

Click a color and use the scroll bar at the bottom to control lightness.

Click the OK button to select this color.

Click the other Colors box and select a color.

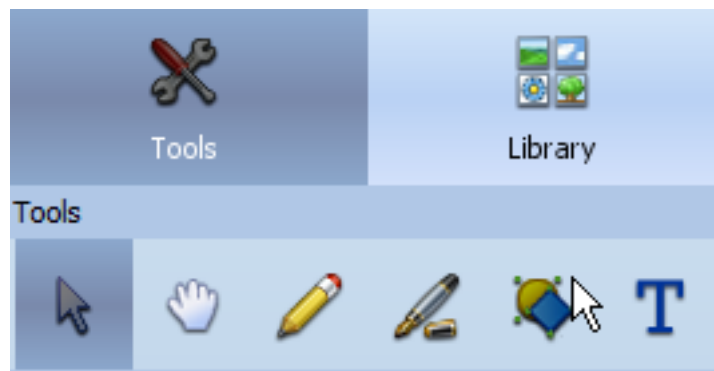


The gradient will fill the background behind any art and images you add.

Use the Drawing Tools

You can use the Drawing tools to add shapes to a page.

To create ground for your picture, click the Shape button in the tools area of the Tools panel.



Click the rectangle shape in the options that appear.



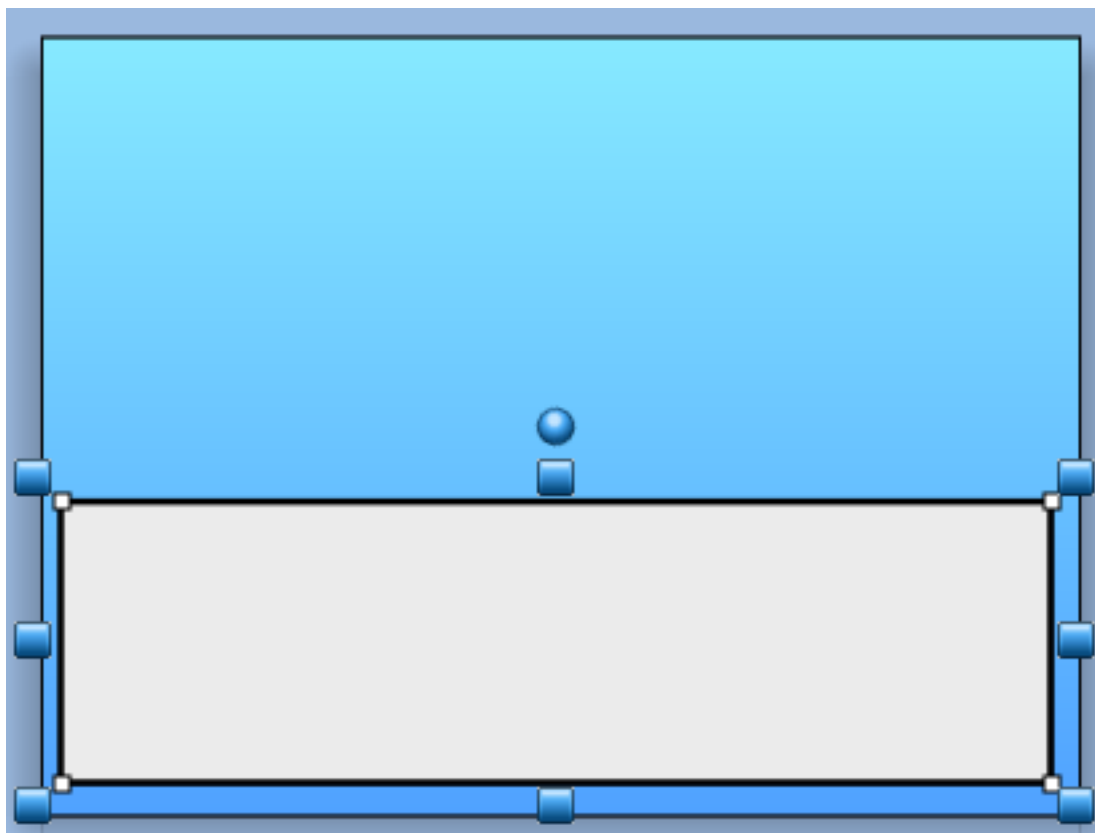
Move the cursor over the page. It will change to a crosshair.



Move the cursor toward the left side of the page.

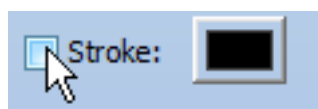
Click and drag down and toward the right side of the page.

When you release the mouse button, you will see a rectangle.

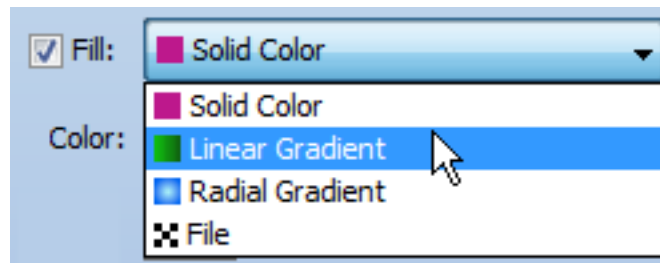


You will see options for this shape in the Options panel on the right.

Uncheck the Stroke check box.



Use the Fill pull-down menu to choose Linear Gradient.



Click the Color boxes and select two green colors from the dialogs that appear to make this shape look like grass.

You will see gradient handles inside the shape.

Click and drag the gradient handles to change the direction of the gradient.



You will see the fill color change.

Move and Resize a Shape

You can use the blue handles around shape to change its size.

Move the cursor over one of the green sizing handles.

Click and drag away from the center of the object to make it larger. Click and drag towards the center of the object to make it smaller.

Use the green sizing handles to adjust the width and height so that the rectangle stretches across the page.



Move the cursor over the middle of the shape. The cursor will change to four arrows.



Click and drag to move the grass so that it stretches across the bottom of the page.

Go to the Options menu and choose Lock to lock this into position. The resize handles will become transparent to indicate it is locked.

Draw Complex Shapes

When you use the drawing tools to create shapes, they are created through nodes and curves. You can move nodes and adjust the curve through and on each side of a node to make complex shapes.

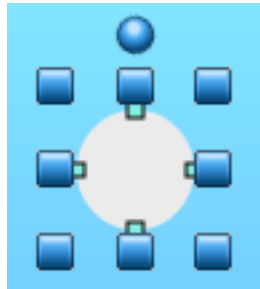
Click the Shape button on the tools panel.



Choose the circle shape from the options that appear.

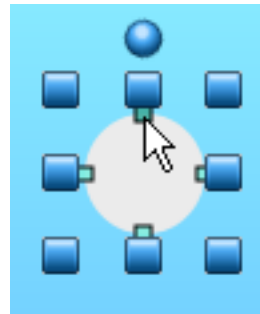


Move the cursor over the sky on the page and click and drag to draw a circle or oval.

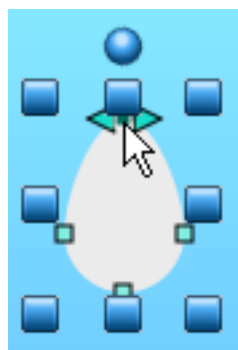


You are going to transform this oval into a raindrop.

Move the cursor over the node at the top of the shape. When the node is active it will darken.

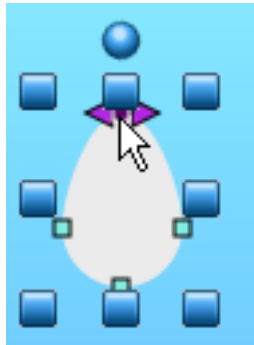


Click and drag the node away from the center of the shape to make it look more like an egg.



The node and node handles are currently blue. This means that the node handles (arrows) can be used to adjust the shape of the curve through the node.

Double-click the node. You will see the node and node handle color change to purple.

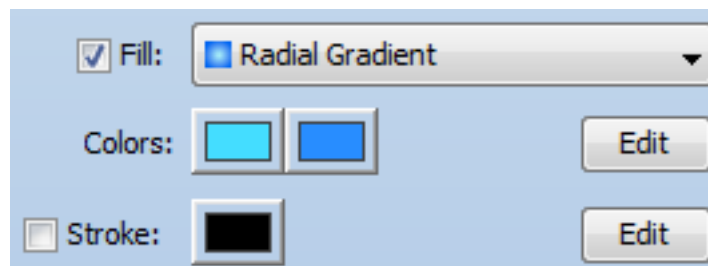


This means that the node handles can be used to change the curve on either side of the node.

Click and drag the node handle down below the node. This will change the shape to look like a raindrop.



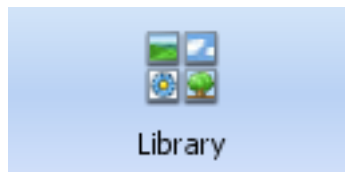
Use the skills you have learned to adjust the fill and stroke in the options panel so that the color of the shape also looks like a raindrop.



Add Art from the Library

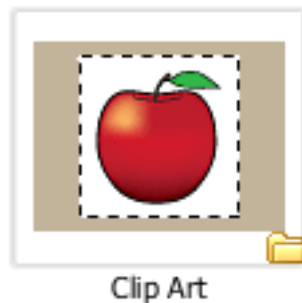
You can add art from the media library to a page.

Click the Library button on the toolbar.



You will see the folders in the library.

Double-click the Clip Art folder to open it.



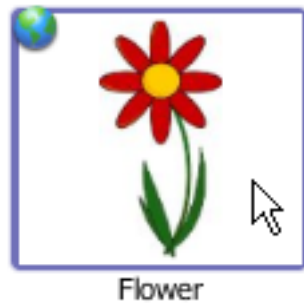
Click and drag the scrollbar on the right until you see the Plants folder.

Double-click the Plants folder to open it.



Find an image of a plant you want to use.

Click and drag the image onto the page.

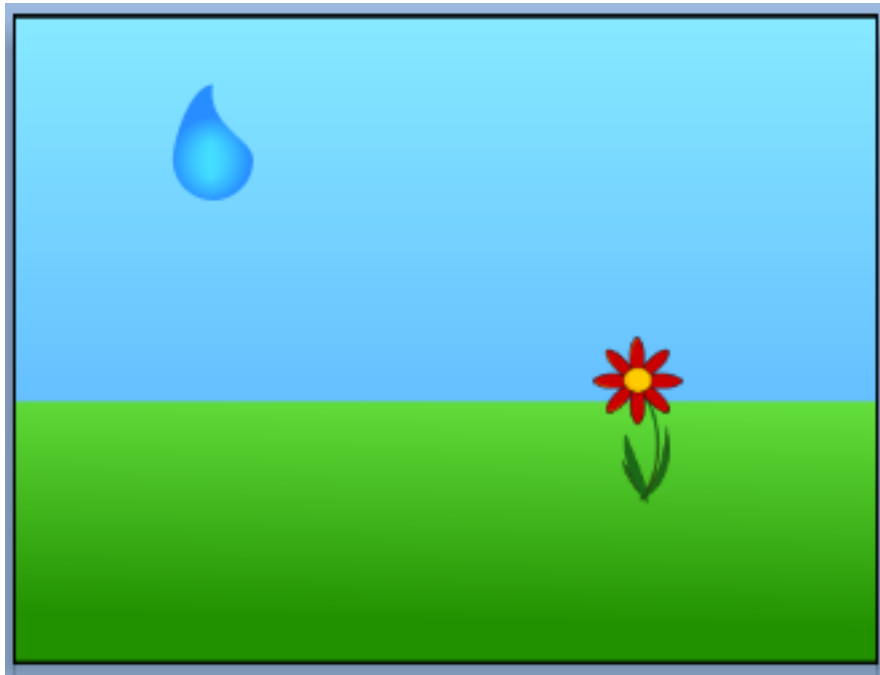


You will see the image in the middle of the page.

Move the cursor over one of the corner handles to resize it.

Move the cursor over the middle of the image.

When the cursor changes to four arrows, click and drag the plant to a spot on the ground you drew earlier.



Save

Click the Save button on the toolbar.



Choose the to Computer option from the menu that appears.

You will see the Save Project As dialog.

Type a name for the file and choose a place to save it.

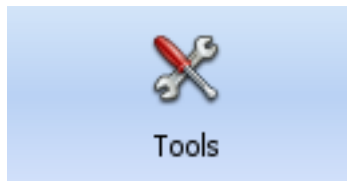
Click the Save button.

Add Path Animation

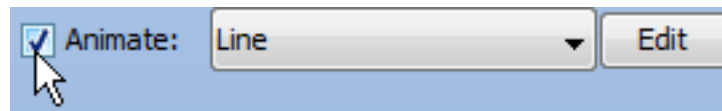
You can add animation to objects in Share.

Click the raindrop.

Click the Tools button on the toolbar.

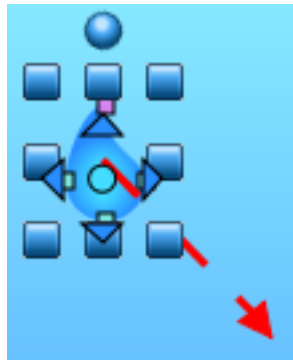


Click the Animate check box.



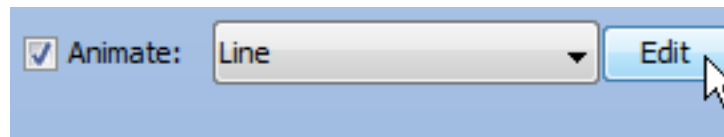
You will see a red line indicating the path for the raindrop animation.

Move the cursor over the arrow at the end of the path.



Click and drag to adjust the direction and distance of the animation path so that the rain drop moves straight downward and on to the grass.

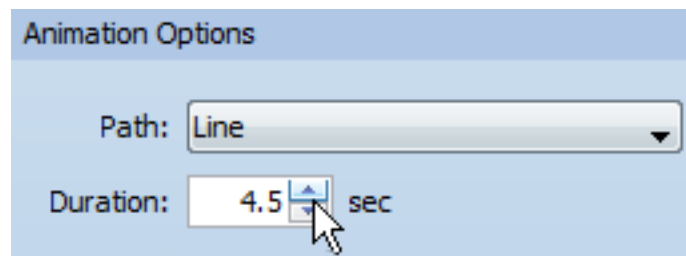
Click the Edit button next to Animate on the tools panel to further adjust the animation.



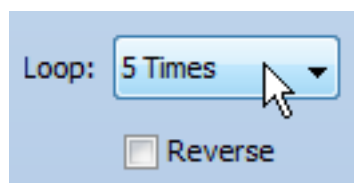
At the Animations Options, click the Play button to preview the animation with the current settings.



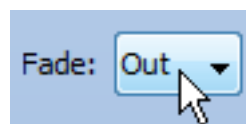
Adjust the number in the Duration box to change how long it takes for the animation to complete the path. Make the number larger to slow the raindrop down, or smaller to make it move faster.



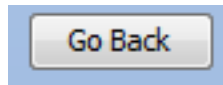
Use the Loop pull-down menu to change the number of times the animation repeats.



Use the Fade pull-down menu to have the raindrops fade out at the end of the path.



Click the Go Back button to return to the page.



Duplicate an Object

Share lets you easily duplicate shapes and objects that you have added.

Select the raindrop shape you created.



Go to the Edit menu and choose Duplicate.

You will see a copy of the raindrop offset and above the first one you drew.

Click and drag it to a new place near the top of the sky.

You will notice the new raindrop also has a path animation.

Go to the Edit menu and choose Duplicate again.

Repeat this process until you have 8-10 raindrops across the page.

Show a Project

You can use the Show feature to present your project full screen. This will also let you to see how all of the animations you have added play in sequence.

Click the View full screen button in the area below the page preview.



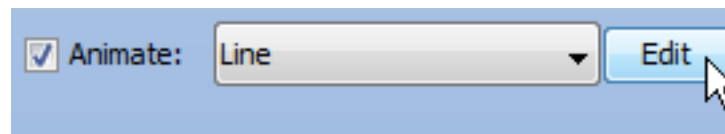
You will see the raindrops animate along a path.

Press the Escape (Esc) key on the keyboard to return to editing mode.

Add Timing to an Animation

Currently, the raindrops all animate at the same time. You can easily adjust the trigger time to change the time when each raindrop starts to animate.

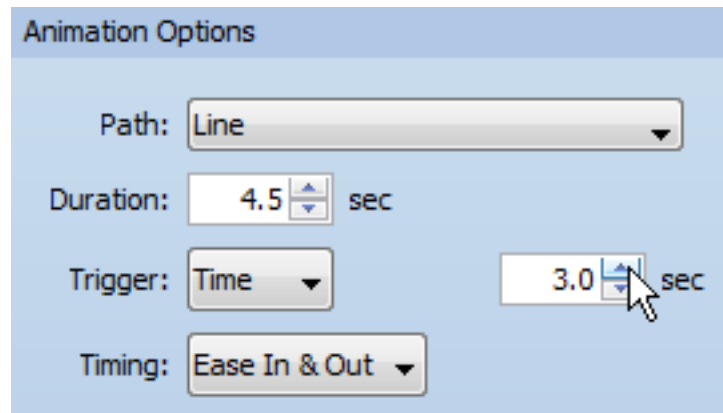
Click a raindrop and click the Edit button next to Animate on the tools panel.



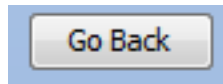
The trigger is currently set to Time with a timing of zero seconds, which means the animation will automatically start as soon as the project is shown or presented.

If you change the Trigger to Object, the viewer would need to click on the image to activate the animation.

Leave the animation Trigger set to Time, but change the number of seconds for when the raindrop will start to animate.



Click the Go Back button to return to the page.



Click each raindrop and edit it's animation options, so that the time trigger is set to a different number of seconds. This will make the rain look a bit more realistic.

Click the View full screen button to see how the all animations will work together.



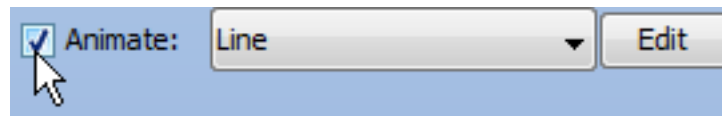
Press the ESC key to return to editing and make timing and animation adjustments.

Change Size During Animation

You can change the size of an object during its animation. This will be helpful in showing plants that are growing as a result of rain.

Click the flower to select it.

Click the Animate check box on the Options panel.



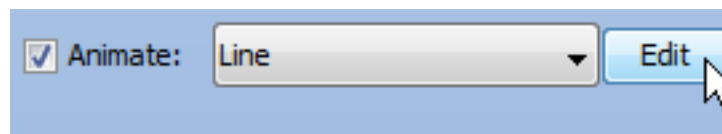
You will see a red line indicating the path for the animation.

Move the cursor over the arrow at the end of the path.

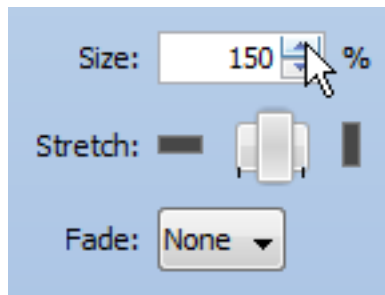


Click and drag to adjust the direction and distance of the animation path so that it is straight above the flower.

Click the Edit button next to Animate on the tools panel.



Increase the size of the object to 150 or 200%.

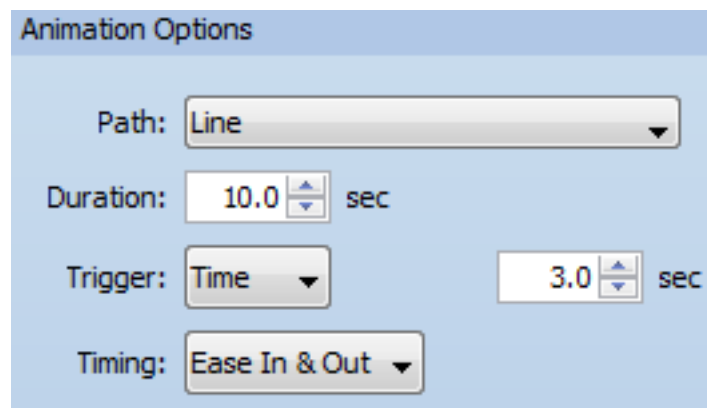


Click the Play button to preview the size change as the flower animates.



Increase the number of seconds in the Duration field so that the flowers continue to grow as the raindrop animations loop.

Adjust the Trigger Time to choose when the flower will begin animating or growing.



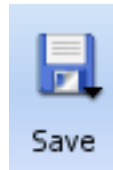
Click the Go Back button.

While the flower is still selected, go to the Edit menu and choose Duplicate to create several copies of the flower.

Select each flower and adjust the Size, Duration, and Time Trigger so that they are all

unique.

Click the Save button on the toolbar.



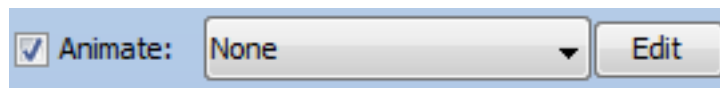
Animate an Object to Appear

Use the drawing tools to create or the Library panel to add an image of the sun. You will find one example in the Clip Art>Weather folder.

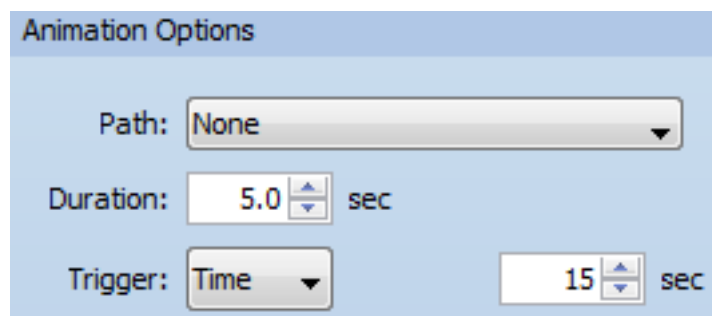
Click the sun to select it.

Click the Animate check box on the Options panel.

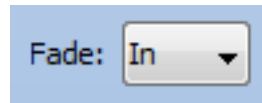
Change the Animate pull-down menu to None and click the Edit button.



At the Animation Options, change the Trigger Time to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through the total time your raindrops are animating. Remember to multiply the duration by the number of times the animation loops.



Use the Fade pull-down menu to choose In.



Click the Go Back button.

Click the View full screen button in the area below the page preview.



Use the skills you have learned to edit the objects and get your animation running just the way you want.

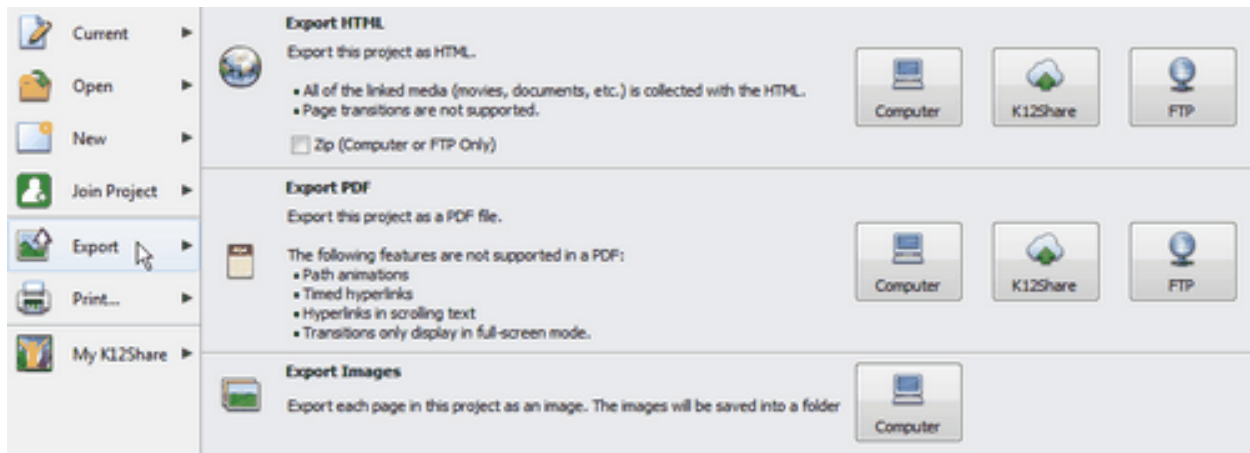
Click the Save button on the toolbar.



Publish Project

You can always share your presentation using the Show feature in Share, but if you want to send your animation to someone else who doesn't have Share, you can publish the animation to HTML.

Choose Export from the list.



Click the Computer button in the Export HTML area.

You will see a Save File as dialog.

Keep the saved file name or type a new one.

Choose a place to save.

Click the Save button.

You will see a Finished Publishing dialog.



Click the View button to explore your exported HTML.

Share has created a folder of files with this name that contains everything you need to watch your animation. Simply share the entire folder and tell viewers to watch the animation by double-clicking on the index.html folder.

Conclusion

Congratulations! You have used Share to create a complex animated scene!

You learned how to:

Add a background

Draw a shape

Change the fill and stroke color of a shape

Adjust the nodes and curves on a shape

Add clip art images

Add animation to an object

Duplicate an object

Change size during an animation

Make objects appear during an animation

Preview or Show a project

Save

Publish to HTML to share