

# THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

## LESSON GRID “AT A GLANCE”

### Chapter 1 What Is a Movie?

#### LESSON 1

##### AN INTRODUCTION TO FILM GENRES

- What are Film Genres?
- Fact and Fiction—Characteristics of Sci-Fi Films
- Watching v. Seeing

#### LESSON 2

##### NARRATIVE STRUCTURE IN *THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL*

- Act 1, The Set-Up—Klaatu Arrives and Escapes
- Act 2, Rising Action—Bobby’s Secret
- Act 3, Falling Action—Klaatu’s Ultimatum
- Themes of War and Peace

#### LESSON 3

##### OUR FILM HERITAGE

- An Introduction to Early Films
- What Is Film Preservation?
- The National Film Registry

#### TAKE 2 EXTENSION ACTIVITIES\*

- Klaatu, Barada, Nikto –The Sequel
  - Film Ownership and Copyright Laws
  - Lesson Quizzes 1, 2, 3
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### Chapter 2 The Filmmaking Process

#### LESSON 1

##### THE DIRECTOR’S VISION

- Three Stages of Production and the Director’s Role
- In the Director’s Chair: Meet Robert Wise

#### LESSON 2

##### GETTING READY—PRE-PRODUCTION

- The Screenwriter’s Role—How Science Fiction Film Differs from Science Fiction Literature and Why
- Casting the Actors—Creating Credibility, Part 1
- The Production Designer’s Role—Creating Credibility, Part 2

#### LESSON 3

##### ON THE SET—PRODUCTION

- The Cinematographer’s Role
- Camera Effects—Rear Projection and Process Photography
- **Enrichment**—Aspect Ratios and Widescreen Projection

#### LESSON 4

##### IN THE STUDIO—POST-PRODUCTION

- The Film Editor’s Role
- The Soundtrack and the Sound Editor’s Role
- The Music Director/Composer’s Role

#### TAKE 2 EXTENSION ACTIVITIES\*

- Stock Photography—How the Earth Stood Still
- Lesson Quizzes 1, 2, 3, 4

### Chapter 3 Film Language and Elements of Style

#### LESSON 1

##### CAMERA!

- Perception and Composition
- Camera Distances and Angles
- Perspective and Composition
- Visual Effects in Motion Pictures

#### LESSON 2

##### LIGHTS!

- Light and Shadow
- Cinematic Point of View

#### LESSON 3

##### ACTION!

- What’s in Motion?
- Pacing and Continuity
- Scene Transitions

#### LESSON 4

##### PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER—ANALYZING A SCENE

- Mise-en-Scène

#### TAKE 2 EXTENSION ACTIVITIES\*

- On Location: American Geography and Hollywood
  - Time-Lapse Photography
  - Lesson Quizzes 1, 2, 3, 4
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### Chapter 4 Historical and Cultural Contexts

#### LESSON 1

##### UNDERSTANDING FILM DEPICTIONS

- Interpreting Historical and Cultural Documents—The UFO Phenomenon
- Identifying Depictions in *The Day the Earth Stood Still*
- Analyzing Depictions in a Movie Trailer

#### LESSON 2

##### AMERICA’S COLD WAR ON FILM

- Documenting the Dawn of the Atomic Age
- Cold War Depictions and Propaganda
- “Duck and Cover” in the 1950s

#### LESSON 3

##### ANALYZING DOCUMENTARY FILMS ABOUT THE 1950S

- The Doomsday Clock
- *Watch the Skies*
- **Enrichment**—Developing a Film Concept Based on a Historic Scientific Event

#### TAKE 2 EXTENSION ACTIVITIES\*

- Depictions and Movietone News, 1951
- How’s Your Mental Hygiene?
- Lesson Quizzes 1, 2, 3