

Child Voice Acting: the truth!



1 **Myth 1: Only adults with character voices play child voice roles**

Voice acting is a massive, competitive and well-paid industry for actors. We often think of “voice acting” as an industry full of adults with dozens of different character, cartoon, and child voices. There are many multi-talented adult voice actors with range and skill. However, there is a place for children in the voice acting industry, too! If you’ve seen (and heard) animated television series like Fisher Price’s Little People, The Backyardigans and Disney’s Palace Pets, you’ve heard youthful voice work by real child actors. Sometimes, child actors go back and forth between voice and on-camera acting. Other times, they specialize in voice acting and maintain lifelong adult voice acting careers.

2 **Myth 2: Voice acting is easier than on camera acting**

I would say that expressing feelings can be more challenging in voice acting than in any other kind of acting. You can’t “hide” in voice acting – there is no visual distraction in the form of physical comedy or facial expressions. All acting must be expressed through the voice! Recorded performances are always removed from the audience. Usually, a voice actor will work in small booths, completely alone, relying solely on their imagination! Two actors might each record their halves of an argument in separate recording sessions, a month apart. The timeline of making an animation movie is such that some voice actors record their performances with only a mood board and the script to go on. Also, voice actors are often cast in multiple roles in the same project.

3 **Myth 3: Voice acting is more difficult to break into than other fields**

Competitively speaking, voice acting is no different than any other form of acting. All lasting acting careers require hard work, training and a willingness to constantly grow and learn. Nevertheless, here are a few tips. If a child is interested in breaking into voice acting, his or her best bet is to start with solid training. Voice-acting training differs from on-camera training. Start with your local acting school, and ask to work with coaches who specialize in voice work. You might even seek a talent agent who

specializes in voice acting. Do you have a parent who likes to be involved? Just as “real family” casting has become a trend in the on-camera commercial world, there is a demand in voice for “real families” of parents and children who can work together.

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- 1p 7 Welke bewering over jonge stemacteurs is juist volgens alinea 1?
- A Ze moeten het werk niet te lang doen omdat het slecht voor hun stem is.
 - B Ze mogen in het begin alleen maar kinderstemmen in tekenfilms inspreken.
 - C Ze wisselen het inspreken van stemmen soms af met acteerwerk.
- 2p 8 Geef bij elke bewering over het werk als stemacteur aan of deze wel of niet genoemd wordt in alinea 2.
Omcirkel 'wel' of 'niet' in je uitwerkbijlage.
- 1 Je moet alle emotie in je stem leggen.
 - 2 Je werkt in een omgeving waar veel publiek is.
 - 3 Je moet soms de rol inspreken voordat de film af is.
 - 4 Je spreekt vaak meerdere rollen in.
- 1p 9 Welke tip voor een kind dat stemacteur wil worden, staat in alinea 3?
- A Doe auditie samen met je ouders.
 - B Doe mee aan een talentenjacht.
 - C Neem toneellessen.