How to make an animated GIF in GIMP

Objective: This lesson explains how to make an animated GIF in GIMP. A GIF is a format in which you can save a series of images so that they move from one image to the next to make a simple animation.
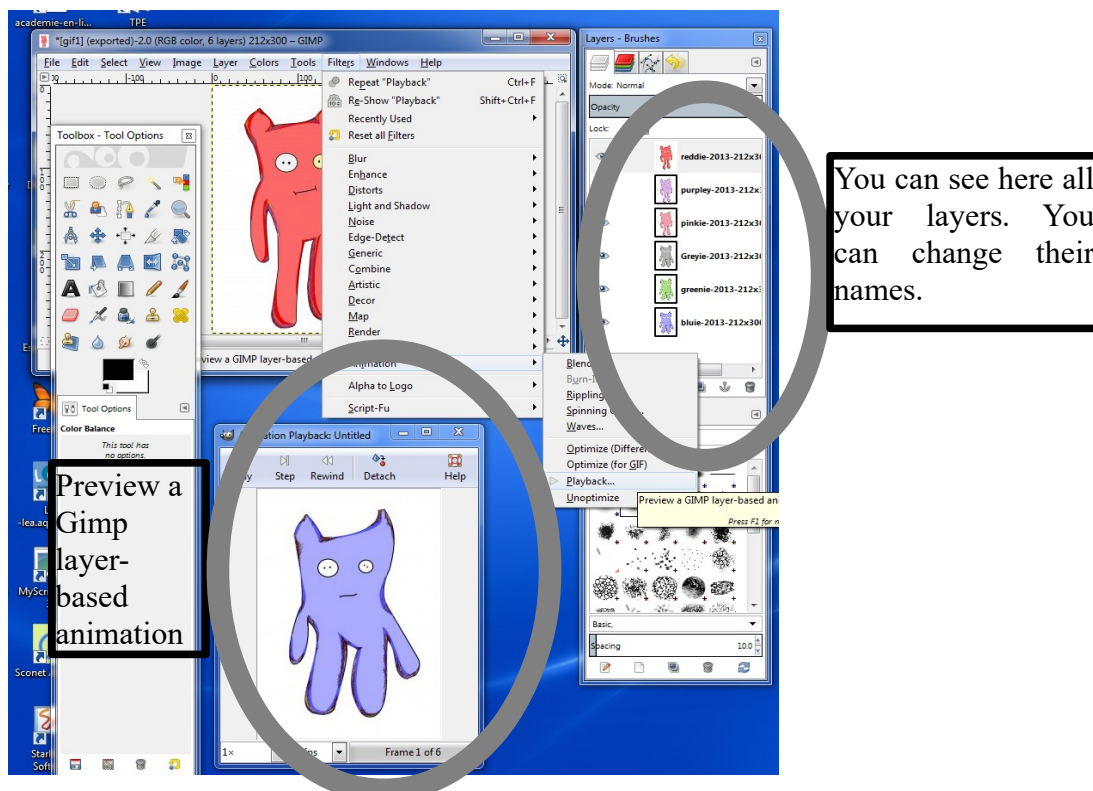
Introduction: Why would you want to make an animated GIF? Because it draws attention and adds movement to your online space. And, it can look really cool. Making a GIF is very easy. This lesson runs you through how to make a GIF using GIMP. If you're not familiar with GIMP it is an open source image manipulation program, similar to Photoshop, but non-proprietary. If you haven't got GIMP already at home, then install the best copy for your computer. GIMP is FREE.

Protocol:
1. Gather together a set of images you want to animate. Ideas? Different words that could look like they're moving, a character moving an arm, leg, head etc, or changing colour…
For your first trial you can choose the images located in the folder **animated_gif** and **colors**. They are similar enough to move together and create an interesting 'flashing' colour change.

2. Open GIMP and then open the first image you want to animate.

You can see here all your layers. You can change their names.

Preview a Gimp layer-based animation

3. On the menu at the top of the screen, click, File, then Open As Layers. Select the next image in your animation. You can change the order later if needed. Now click on the new layer and rename if needed.

4. Repeat this process with the rest of your images.

5. ANIMATION TIME! When your images are all ready go to the menu at the top of the screen, click, Filter then Animation, then Playback. A box should pop up with your animation.

6. If the images are too big or too small go back to GIMP and resize using the resize tool.

7. To save – file, Export, scroll down to file type GIF. GIMP then takes you through a series of questions. The answer to the first question is save as animation. In the next box you can change the frame rate to be slower or faster.

8. Repeat the process with another set of images. You can create your own images with Gimp or Paint or PhotoFiltre.

Source: http://www.elearnhub.org/how-to-make-an-animated-gif-in-gimp/