

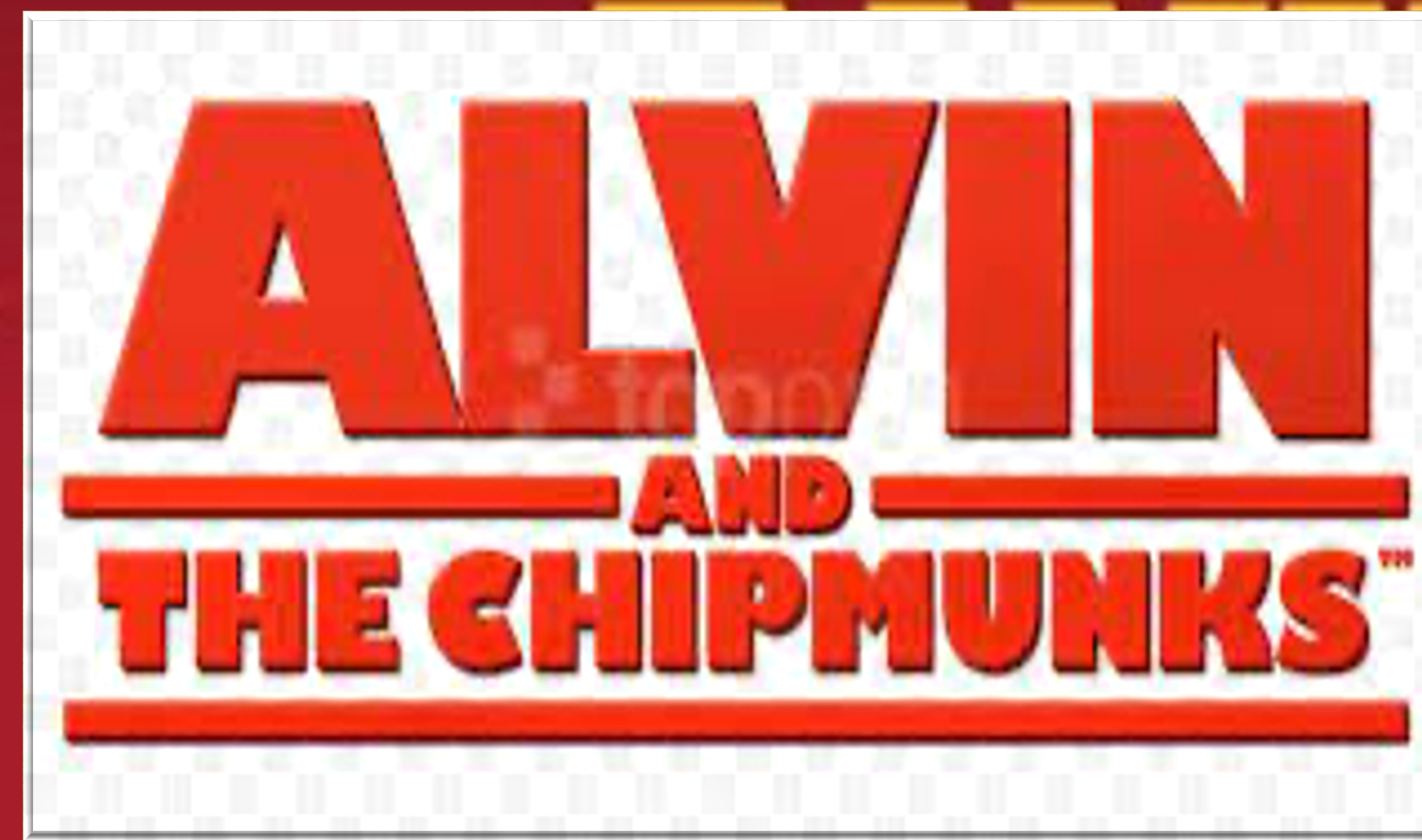


ALVIN!!!: Who are you?

Evan Simpson

California University of Pennsylvania

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Research Question

Who is Alvin?

Alvin is an Anthropomorphic chipmunk who is the main protagonist in the show Alvin and the Chipmunks. His physical appearance is very similar to that of a normal chipmunk. However, he acts like a normal human being. He is a brave, energetic, full-of-life troublemaker who does whatever he wants and is always very proud of who he is.

Behind the Character and Animal

Who is Alvin?

- Created by Ross Bagdasarian in the late 1950s.
- First appeared in 1961 in *The Alvin Show* and has been active ever since.
- Alvin wears a red hoodie/sweater with a yellow "A" on it, along with blue pants and a red hat (refer to fig, 2)
- Alvin has appeared in 5 TV series and 8 films, 4 of which are CGI/ live action and 3 that are direct to TV films.

Facts about chipmunks

- Chipmunks are small ground-dwelling rodents.
- 25 different species of chipmunks exist, with only one species originating outside of North America.
- Interestingly enough, chipmunks have a significant meaning in Native American culture.
 - Chipmunks range from being totems that represent communication skills, active characters, intelligence, and hard-working people, to representing prosperity and opportunities in dreams.

Evidence



Fig 1. Alvin's appearance in 2015 show "Alvin" Parody Fandom https://parody.fandom.com/wiki/Alvin_Seville#Portrayals: PNG file 6 April 2021



Fig 2. Alvin's appearance in the 1980s "Alvin Seville" DisneyFandom https://disneyfanon.fandom.com/wiki/Alvin_Seville PNG file 6 April 2021



Fig 4. Image of a wild chipmunk "Chipmunks in the Garden" Extension <https://extension.unh.edu/blog/chipmunks-garden> JPEG File 6 April 2021



Fig 3. Alvin's design from 1958-1960 "Original Album Cover" Wikifur <https://en.wikifur.com/wiki/AlvinandtheChipmunks> JPG File 6 April 2021

Works Cited

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Conclusions

- Alvin's creation is unlike any other character creation. The inspiration for Alvin being a chipmunk was due to Bagdasarian wanting to give the voice he created more personality. While thinking of different animals that the voice could be, a chipmunk jump in front of the Bagdasarian's car. Bagdasarian described the chipmunk as being brave and confident, just like how Alvin's personality is in the TV shows and films.
- When looking at chipmunks in Native American culture, it is easy to see that the real-life traits and characteristics of a chipmunk play a large role in how Native Americans view chipmunks. The creators of Alvin weren't inspired by Native American culture when creating the character, but just like the Native Americans, the creators of Alvin pulled from the real-life characteristics and traits of a chipmunk to create the character.

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