**Movie Making (We used the ‘Entertainers’ badge)**

*Many thanks to Bridget Louie at Bethlehem Baptist Challenge for these great insights into delivering this subject.*

We had the help from Mallory who had just finished at Film School in Wellington prior to her leaving for overseas which made things much easier as she had a lot of knowledge. You may be able to find someone who can help you.

Many of the girls were at a school where they needed to have i-pads so we used the i-movie feature to film/edit which was very straight forward and intuitive. The girls had no problems with it.

We took 5-6 weeks to complete this badge and needed all that time to do so.

The first session was about thinking about short films, seeing some examples of short films (few minutes long), many suitable examples on the internet, talking about the idea of a story line and using story boards to plan out the short film.  The girls got into groups of around 4-6.  We gave them the challenge of incorporating two items from a list which included things like a mirror, cup, hairbrush, torch, bunch of flowers etc. The girls were also constrained to using certain spaces within the building.  We found it useful to have one adult per group to help keep them on track, give some guidance etc. although most groups sorted everything out on their own.

The second session was continuing with storyboard development (using pen and paper to map out what they were planning) and various film shots/techniques/camera angles etc.  Our church is large with a big production area upstairs which is usually out of bounds. We arranged for the girls to visit this and get some tips on shooting angles/keeping the filming interesting from one of the creative staff members as well as seeing the equipment they use including lights/green screen etc.

The next couple of weeks were spent filming. The girls brought in any additional props, costumes etc. they needed. Some groups had one person filming and others acting, other groups shared the filming and acting and directing.

The second to last session was spent on last minute filming, editing, making title and credit pages and adding sound/sound effects as needed. Mallory who helped us had a lap top with lots of background music and sounds so you may need to get some help if you don't have the technical knowhow.

For our final night we had a short film evening.  We decorated a room with a large screen, a red carpet and seating and invited the parents along for a screening of the short films.  Everyone was encouraged to dress up in their Hollywood glamour (leaders anyway).  We had awards for all the girls with an Oscar statue (from the $2 shop) for each girl with positive comments about aspects of their film such as 'Congratulations on making an Awesome Movie! /Great Story/ Clever Camera Angles/ Superb Acting/ Wonderful Directing'. We finished the evening with a shared supper. Lots of fun!

I think one of the reasons this was more successful than putting on plays or a show was that the girls who do not like being on stage/in front of the camera could have an important role behind the scenes filming/directing leaving the lime light to the girls who enjoy it. Also the girls are so familiar with using some of this technology that they enjoyed expanding what they did with it such as developing more complicated story lines, thinking of other ways to tell a story and technical aspects such as camera angles etc.

Hope this is of use

Bridget