From A to V: Audiovisual Production

Skill Builders

1. The production of movies, television, and videos involves creating storyboards. Storyboards, which resemble comic strips, illustrate the key scenes of the story. The purpose of the storyboard is to plan the sequence of story and visual elements before filming. Choose a favorite movie and create a storyboard for the first scene.

2. Listen to a favorite song and develop a music video for it. What images come to mind as you hear the song? What are the lyrics? Which characters are present in the song? Draw or paint a storyboard for the video.

3. Public service announcements (PSAs) are advertisements that address social issues. They are used to educate the public about important issues. Choose a social issue and create a PSA to raise awareness.

4. "Foley artists" add sounds to movies and television programs to make them more realistic. By adding sounds to the scene, the audience is more immersed in the experience. Create a short clip of a scene with added sound effects.

Technology

1. Find out how a video, movie, or still camera works. Explore the different tools and techniques used to create visual content. Understand how cameras capture images and how editing software is used to enhance the footage.

2. Find out how to create digital animations. Explore the process of creating digital animations using software like After Effects or Adobe Flash. Understand the different tools and techniques used in digital animation.

Career Exploration

1. Talk with someone at a local library or community center about the job opportunities available. Discover the different roles and responsibilities of a career in video production.

Service Projects

1. Create an audiovisual (AV) presentation to highlight the benefits of Girl Scouts. Make sure that you work with someone at your council to ensure the accuracy of the information. Use it to help your council recruit new volunteers.

2. Work with others in your community to record the history of your community. Find out what the town was like 30, 50, or 100 years ago by recording people who lived there. Use old maps and photos to illustrate your presentation.

3. Videotape an event in your community for people who cannot attend. For example, if your town is honoring a notable resident, or staging an original dance or theatrical performance, make the tape available for viewing at your local school library.

4. Volunteer to be a member of your school's AV team or squad.

5. Volunteer to create, maintain, and index an organization's photo or slide library.

6. Create a comic book or picture book to teach younger girls about careers in AV production. Use the storyboarding skills you have learned to help you plan out your book. Make the characters realistic and positive role models for girls in your community.

And Beyond

For the media-minded, try these related internet projects:

- Media Savvy
- Writing for Film
- Graphic Communications
- The Play's the Thing
- Do You Get the Message?

Or mix and match media by doing audiovisual activities in any other interest projects.