

Creative communities



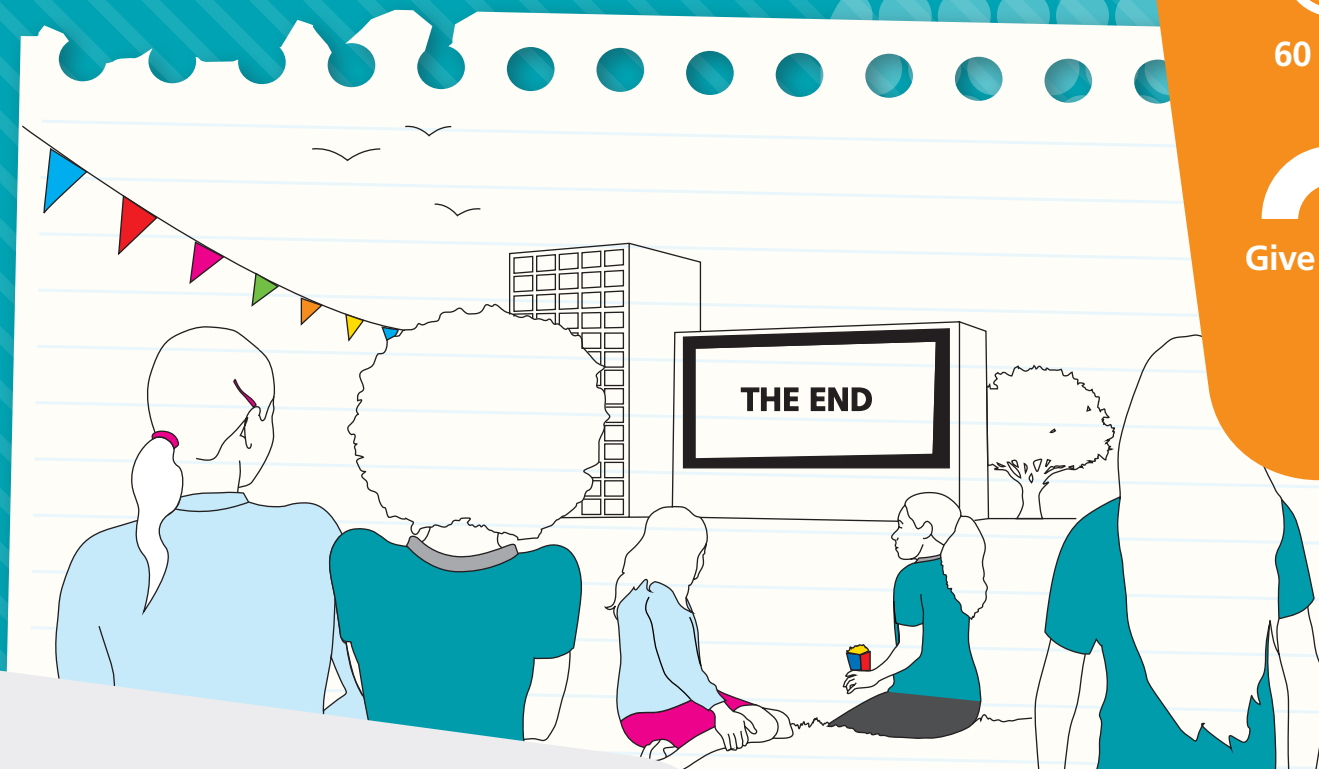
Community
action



60 mins



Give it a go



Aim of activity

Put your imagination to the test in a challenge to transform an unloved local place into a hub of creativity and culture.

What you'll get out of it

- Celebrate your local community.
- Be inspired to take positive action.

What you'll need

- A4 paper
- A3 paper
- Pens or pencils
- Scissors, 1 pair between 3
- Glue or tape
- Card
- Felt tips, paint and other craft materials
- A selection of magazines or catalogues
- Stickers, 1 per girl
- Prizes (bronze, silver and gold; optional)



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding



Imagine your local council is commissioning a group of young people to design and carry out a new, creative community project.

The brief

- It should be a community project that uses arts or culture to bring people together.
- The project should transform an unloved or unused place in your local area into a hive of creativity.
- The project must have a key message that celebrates something about your local community.
- It has to involve members of your local community and it must be clear what they'll get out of being involved.
- The project can be something permanent, like a sculpture or mural, or a one-off event like a performance.
- The most innovative projects will be chosen as winners.

What to do

- 1 Get into groups of two or three and take a sheet of A3 paper and a pen.
- 2 You've got 15 minutes to talk about ideas for your project. Divide your paper into four and use the sections to brainstorm the points below.
 - Who could be involved in your project (for example, children from a local school).
 - Possible forms the project could take (for example, a pop-up cinema or music festival).
 - What aspect of your community the project could celebrate (for example, an inspirational person who lived there, an incredible piece of architecture, or a local tradition).
 - Where the project could take place (for example, an unused warehouse or patch of land).

3 Pick your favourite idea from each section and combine them to put together a rough plan. For example, you could transform an unoccupied shop into a dance studio and provide dance workshops for young children, or celebrate a local festival.

4 Now it's time to create a proposal you can put forward to the council's committee. It should include a short presentation where you explain the project, as well as a visual design like a drawing or collage. It should clearly explain how your project meets all the points in the brief. You've got 25 minutes to practise your presentation and create your visual design using the materials available.

5 Take turns presenting your plans to the rest of your unit, who'll play the role of the council's judging panel.

6 When you've all presented, lay your visual designs out on a table. Everyone can now use a sticker to vote for the project they think is most innovative and unique, and best meets the brief. Your leader will count the stickers and announce the gold, silver and bronze winning designs!

Take it further

As a unit, why not contact your local council to share your ideas and find out how to get involved in creative projects in your area?