



Making a live action film...

You will need:

- A digital camera
- A tripod
- Actors
- A set
- Props

Activity:

1. Use a storyboard to plan your shots
2. Set up each of your shots by telling your actors exactly what you want them to do. Where do you want them to move to? How would you like them to say their lines?
3. Use your tripod and put your camera into position so that you can get the camera angle you want for each shot
4. When you are ready, say "Quiet on set, please" to make sure that when you start recording you'll have no other noise than the sounds you want in the film. Press record and then say "Action!" to let your actors know the filming is starting.
5. Say "Cut" when you have your shot and pause the camera.
6. Repeat for all your shots. Shoot them in the order they appear on your storyboard.

What do you think?

If you are not happy with some of your shots, don't be afraid to go back and film some more footage or experiment more with your editing. Don't worry about making mistakes as you can always undo your last step.



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What next?

Use the DIY DIRECTOR guides on sound and editing to help you edit your shots together on your computer and add music, titles and transitions.

Do you want to record a soundtrack?

Activity:

1. When recording a live action film try to use an external microphone – not the camera microphone.
2. If you have enough people on your film crew, put someone in charge of making sure that the mic is on at the right time and that other noises are not recorded by mistake. When you are ready to record, your sound person needs to say “Quiet on set!” to tell the rest of the crew they need to be quiet.
3. Give your sound person headphones so that they can hear what is being recorded. Ask them to check that the sound is loud enough and whether there is any unwanted noise in the background.

Ready to edit?

Activity:

1. Open your editing software and upload your film footage. On screen you should be able to see a panel of clips and a timeline.
2. First produce a rough edit by selecting each clip and editing out what you don't want in each. Then drag the clips onto the timeline in the order you want them. Now play this back to see whether your story makes sense.

Now you can edit your film further by:

- Splitting some clips so that you can cut between one and another – for example you could have a person being chased cut with shots of the person doing the chasing
- Cutting out clips that aren't needed



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