

Lights, Camera, Action!

Average Program Length: 2 hours

Meeting Location: Visitor's Center

Total material list: None

Scouts need to have access to the following

--Windows or Mac Computer with Internet Access

--Video cameras or smartphones

Activities by Scout Level

Girl Scouts

Daisies and Brownies- pick at least 1 of the steps below

Juniors and Cadettes- pick at least 2 of the steps below

Seniors and Ambassadors-pick at least 3 of the steps below

Boy Scouts

Lions, Tigers, Wolves, and Bears- pick at least 1 of the steps below

Webelos, Scout Rank, and Tenderfoot- pick at least 2 of the steps below

Second Class, First Class, Star Scouts, Life Scouts, and Eagle Scouts-pick at least 3 of the steps below

Background

Cinema and videography are powerful mechanisms to teach people about natural and cultural history. Sadly, today, watching tv is the most common leisure activity. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Americans spend 2.8 hours every day watching television. The EPA states that Americans spend 93% of their life indoors, and only 7% outdoors. What they see on tv has a huge effect on their choices. Is there a way that we can use tv to allow people to decide to spend more time outdoors?

In 2009, *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* became a wildly popular PBS series, with over 33 million viewers during the air time. The PBS webpage describes the film as "a six-episode series produced by Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan and written by Dayton Duncan. Filmed over the course of more than six years at some of nature's most spectacular locales – from Acadia to Yosemite, Yellowstone to the Grand Canyon, the Everglades of Florida to the Gates of the Arctic in Alaska - *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* is nonetheless a story of people: people from every conceivable background – rich and poor; famous and unknown; soldiers and scientists; natives and newcomers; idealists, artists and entrepreneurs; people who were willing to devote themselves to saving some precious portion of the land they loved, and in doing so reminded their fellow citizens of the full meaning of democracy."

This film inspired people to love the National Parks, and to get outdoors.

Matching Badges



Cadette-Digital Movie
Maker



Cadette-
Screenwriter



BSA-
Moviemaking

Program Activities

1. At home, watch a chapter of *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* called "This is America". It can be found on <http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/about/this-is-america/>. Also watch the National Park Service Public Service Announcement at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ykvO8UN3g0>, the Centennial Promo video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0-wdrG-uC0>, and the short Cabrillo National Monument documentary at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IsA4mHUEpc>. Which one did you like the best? Which was the most effective, and why?
2. Make and illustrate a story board about Cabrillo National Monument. You can choose to focus on one topic (i.e.: the lighthouse, the tide pools, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo), or talk about the Park in general. Visit us here at the Park, and walk around to learn about aspects you might want to cover.

3. Make a Cabrillo National Monument film! Decide what kind of video you want to create. Do you want to set it to music and make a promo video? Do you want it to be a short narrated documentary? Do you want to be actors in a period-piece? Do you want to talk about the Park as a whole, or do you want to focus on one aspect (i.e.: the lighthouse, the whale migration, the tide pools, etc.)? Do you want to do one video as a troop, or break out into groups/individuals and cover multiple ideas? The video links in step one show different examples of different video types. Go out into the park, and shoot your video! You must have access to video cameras or smart phones to shoot. Go home and edit your video. You can drag the clips in the order that you want, and delete the clips that you will not use. User-friendly, free software is already available on most computers (Windows Movie Maker or Mac's iMovie).

4. Submit your film to a nature video festival or competition, or host a nature movie night at your school! Share it with cabrillo.education@gmail.com so we may see your masterpiece as well!