

k THIS z Week...

Lights! Camera! Action!

You're invited on set in this week's *Kidzone*! We check out Trop Jr, an amazing short film competition for kids. Go behind the scenes with the *Kidzone* gang as they make their own movie in this week's awesome comic. You can't watch a movie without popcorn, right? Don't miss Cheffy's yummy popcorn recipe. Oliver shows you how to make your own director's megaphone and we've got Wacky Facts, Would You Rather and colouring comp! Happy reading!



TROP JR



Trop Jr is the world's largest short film festival — for kids by kids!

The competition is open to young Aussies aged 15 and under and is part of Tropfest, one of the world's most famous short film festivals.

Whether you love filming, acting, editing or writing stories, Trop Jr is an awesome opportunity to make a short film and share it with a huge audience. Finalists get to see their films screened at a major event at the end of the year.

Films must be five minutes or less and must include the Trop Jr Signature Item. **The Trop Jr Signature Item for 2026 is 'MAP'.**

Entries are judged on originality and creativity, storytelling, use of the Trop Jr Signature Item, technical achievement and entertainment value.

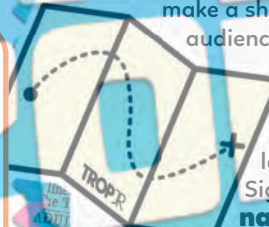
You don't need expensive gear to make a great short film. Entries can be filmed on a smart-phone, tablet or any basic camera you have access to. Professional equipment is not required. Trop Jr is all about creativity and storytelling, not big budgets and fancy equipment. Entrants are encouraged to be bold, be original and to have fun!

Entries can be submitted between Wednesday **12 August** and Friday **18 September**. A shortlist of finalists will be announced on Wednesday 21 October and the festival screening will happen sometime in November.

For more info visit www.tropfest.com/tropjr
Get filming!

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WOULD YOU RATHER?

MOVIE-MAKING EDITION!

START EACH LINE WITH "WOULD YOU RATHER ..."
AND CIRCLE WHICH OPTION YOU WOULD CHOOSE!

Write the script for a movie

OR

write the score (music/
soundtrack) for a movie?

Star in an action movie

OR

have the lead role in a romantic
movie?

Watch a movie at the cinema

OR

watch a movie at home?

Be in charge of recording all the
sound in a movie

OR

be in charge of operating the
camera?

Make a film with computer
animation

OR

make a stop-motion movie with
toys or clay figures?

Design the costumes for a film

OR

choose the filming locations?

Play a superhero in a Marvel
movie

OR

play an alien in a sci-fi movie?

Make a movie that wins an
Academy Award (Oscar)

OR

make a movie that makes people
laugh?

Watch a scary movie by yourself

OR

watch a sad movie (that makes
you cry) with your friends?

Have unlimited popcorn refills at
the movies

OR

have unlimited soft drink refills
at the movies?

Work with a film crew to make
your film

OR

do everything yourself (writing,
directing, acting, editing etc.)?

Nk

03

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CK'S TREEHOUSE



JUNE

SAT 20

Amika Mercy (5),
Zara LeVene (13)

SUN 21

James Bright (7),
Joel Whelan (12)

MON 22

Emily Bahls-Kildea (12),
Callum Mayle (11),
Georgia Fedoric (8)

TUE 23

Irene Lee (10),
Maeve Bennett (7)

WED 24

Ryan McIntee (13),
Eve Hocking (9),
Marli Jackson (10)

THU 25

Ollie Torrens (7),
Amaalu Abucha (7)

FRI 26

Sarah Rodricks (13)

Dear Kidzoners, Thanks for all your letters, photos and drawings – I love collecting them, so keep sending them to me so I can hang them up in my tree house. I can't wait to hear from you!

—Cousin Koala (CK)

Send your letters to:
Cousin Koala, 95-99 Railway Rd,
Blackburn Vic. 3130

Message: kidzomemg.com.au/cktreehouse

Dear CK,

I really love your magazines. I really like the competitions and seeing who wins. I am eight years old and I live in Tasmania. I have a sister Georgie who is six. I have a cat called Lolly. I like playing games with my sister, swimming and drawing/craft. I also love wombats and have held a wombat at the zoo and I have sent you a photo of this. We have eight girls in our family including four chooks and one boy. My favourite subject at school is drama because we play games and dress up. My favourite movie is *Time Toys*. What's your favourite movie?
Adelaide

Hi there Adelaide!

You have such a cool name!

Seeing all the fabulous artwork from the colouring competition always brings me so much joy. I'm glad you love seeing them too!

Do you have a favourite swim stroke? I find back-stroke the easiest but I go much faster in freestyle. I'm afraid I haven't got the photo of you with a wombat but I am sure it was super cute!

Drama is fun! You get to pretend to be someone or something else! I recently played a platypus in a play about Noah's Ark. The bill was a little itchy but it was super fun!

My favourite movie used to be *Back to the Outback*. I still really like it but I think my new favourite is either *Hoppers* or *Zootopia* (one and two). *Time Toys* looks pretty cool – I just watched the trailer. Thank you for the recommendation!

Please say hi to Georgia, Lolly and the chooks for me! Bear hugs, CK

Please put my name on the BIRTHDAY LIST

Full Name
Age Now Birth Date / /
Parent's signature

If you are aged between five and 14 and would like your birthday/letter printed in *Kidzone*, fill in the coupon and send it to: Cousin Koala™, 95-99 Railway Rd, Blackburn 3130 or head to <https://www.kidzomemg.com.au/cktreehouse>.
Include a letter in your own handwriting and permission (signature) from your parent to have it printed.

04

EMAIL



G'day CK!

I like your mags. I haven't won any Kidzone comps. But that's all right. Happy Easter.

I won a colouring competition and the prize was a ticket for two people to watch GOAT in cinemas. I won it in Karama library, Darwin, NT.

I do homeschool. I live in Kupang, Timor. I was born in Tasmania, Australia.

Your mags are fun!!! God bless you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Warm regards CK - Rebekah

G'day Rebekah

It's great to hear you like our mags! I had a lovely Easter, thank you, and hope you did, too. Kupang looks like an interesting city with lovely beaches. Did you enjoy watching GOAT? All of us at Kidzone did! We also had a great time putting together a whole Kidzone issue on the movie. Did you see it? Thanks for sending in your super-cute pic of me and you, too.

I'll stick it on the tree house wall with all the other awesome artwork from Kidzone readers. I'm so glad you find our mags fun because we have sooooo much fun making them each week. Keep entering our colouring comps, won't you? I hope you enjoy doing them. Say a big hello to your fam from me, and God bless you too.

Bear hugs, CK



I love to play hide-and-seek. Can you find me on one of this week's Kidzone pages?

HI!
HOW IS YOUR DAY GOING? I HOPE IT IS GOING WELL AND DO YOU WANT TO CHAT NOW?

- PEARL

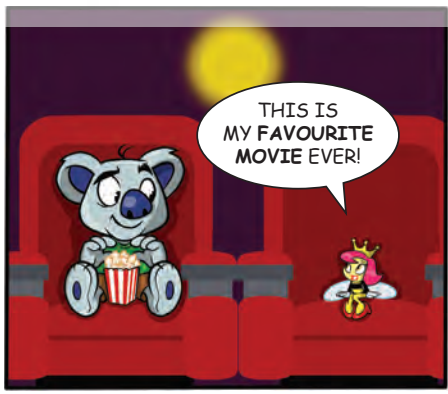
G'day Pearl,

My day is going very well, thank you for asking! I hope you're having a great day too! I'm always ready for a chat with our Kidzone readers through our letters page.

Write again soon!

Bear hugs, CK

COUSIN KOALA



EMAIL

RoB

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

Let's join BitBoy to meet the crew and tour the set of Oliver's new movie. Then turn to page 8 to find out if it makes it to the big screen!

Hi, I'm BitBoy and I'm the sound recordist and camera operator for Oliver's new pirate movie.

Let's meet the rest of the cast and crew.

I'm D-Jayn. I choose all the costumes for the movie and I do all the hair and make-up.

Make-up is needed so the actors don't look shiny on screen.



I'm Sam, the lead actor in the movie. I have been busy learning my lines and running through the action scenes with my co-star, Jym - who is also the STUNT CO-ORDINATOR.

Yeah. I'm the stunt co-ordinator.

Yes. I'm Oliver Pickle - writer and director of my very serious and dramatic movie 'Ahoy Ho Ho.'

My job is to instruct camera angles and make sure my actors say and do everything perfectly.

I'm Faith and I'm in charge of lighting.

Its sounds simple but there is almost a science behind it - making sure there are no shadows and that the cast look their best.

COMEDY OF ERRORS

BY ROD ALLEN



EATS

HONEY BUTTER POPCORN

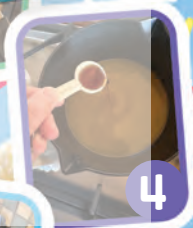
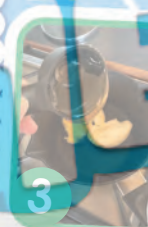
what you need:

an adult's help, ¼ cup popping corn kernels, 100g butter, ¼ cup honey, 1 teaspoon vanilla essence

directions:

- 1 Ask an adult to help you pop the popcorn according to packet directions. I used a microwave popcorn maker, but you can also pop the kernels in a big pot on the stove.
- 2 Set cooked popcorn aside in a mixing bowl.
- 3 Add the butter and honey to a medium saucepan. Ask an adult to help you heat the butter and honey on the stove on medium-high heat and stir continuously until it is melted completely.
- 4 Remove from the heat and stir in vanilla.
- 5 Carefully pour the butter and honey mixture over the popcorn and stir with a large spoon to coat the popcorn evenly.
- 6 Serve warm.

yum!



HEY CRAFTY CREW!

DIRECTOR'S MEGAPHONE



What you need:
a large size paper cup, black poster paint, paint brush, white cardstock, scissors, glue, alphabet stickers



BIBLE MESSAGE

On a movie set, the director is the boss. They are in charge of it all — they tell actors how to deliver their lines and what to do in a scene. Directors tell the film crew what they want and need to help tell the story the way they want to. They have a lot of responsibility and a lot of power on a film set.

Have you ever been in a situation where you have got to be in charge? Whenever we're in a privileged position like that, it's important that we choose our words carefully. Whoever we're talking to, let's always be kind, fair, patient and encouraging. "Lord, help me control my tongue. Help me be careful about what I say" (Psalm 141, verse 3).

- 1 Paint the paper cup black. If the cup has a rim, leave this white. Allow to dry completely.
- 2 Cut out the base of the cup.
- 3 Cut out a strip of white cardstock 5cm wide and at least 30cm long.
- 4 Wrap the strip of cardstock around the base of the cup to overlap and create a ring shape (trim length as necessary). Use glue to secure.
- 5 Use glue to attach the ring to base of the cup. This is the megaphone mouthpiece.
- 6 Make a handle by cutting a strip of white cardstock 1cm wide and about 10cm long.
- 7 Make a fold 2cm from each end. Make another fold 1cm from each end.
- 8 Fold the handle as pictured and glue the flat tabs to the base of the black cone.
- 9 Finally, add 'DIRECTOR' or your own name to the megaphone with the alphabet stickers.
- 10 Try out your megaphone. Who will you direct? What will you say?



Wacky FACTS

Lights, camera, action! Check out these wacky facts about the world of film and movie-making!



One of the world's first film studios – the Limelight Department – started in Melbourne in 1891 and was run by The Salvation Army.



The first movies had no sound. They were known as 'silent movies'.

The first cinemas opened in the early 1900s.



When films were first made with sound, they were known as 'talkies'.



Movies cost a lot of money to make. *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* holds the record for most expensive movie ever made. It had a budget of \$536 million.

Some jobs on a movie set have funny names. A 'foley artist' creates sound effects, the 'gaffer' is in charge of lighting, a 'grip' is in charge of building, moving and setting up camera equipment, and the 'best boy' is the assistant to the gaffer.



'Genre' is the word for a type of movie. There are action movies (exciting), comedies (funny), documentaries (about real people and real events), dramas (serious), horror (scary), romantic (love stories) and science fiction (set in the future or in outer space). Can you think of more?

The longest film ever made is a Swedish documentary called *Logistics*. It is 857 hours long. That's more than 35 days!



Whenever you see rain in movies, it's usually water from a sprinkler. Real rain doesn't show up very well on camera. Water will be sprayed on a setting using larger droplets of water to make sure that it's seen.



Entries will be judged on artistic merit.



Colouring Competition
Kidzone has three **Mini Cam**
Digital Cameras to give away!

*size may vary.



SEND YOUR ENTRY (BY FRIDAY 10 JULY 2026) TO:

Kidzone's Colouring Competition, 95-99 Railway Road, Blackburn VIC., 3130

OR HEAD TO kidzonemag.com.au/competition TO UPLOAD YOUR ENTRY.



Full Name

Age

Address

Postcode

Parent's signature



13



SAMUEL'S MEGA BIBLE PUZZLE!

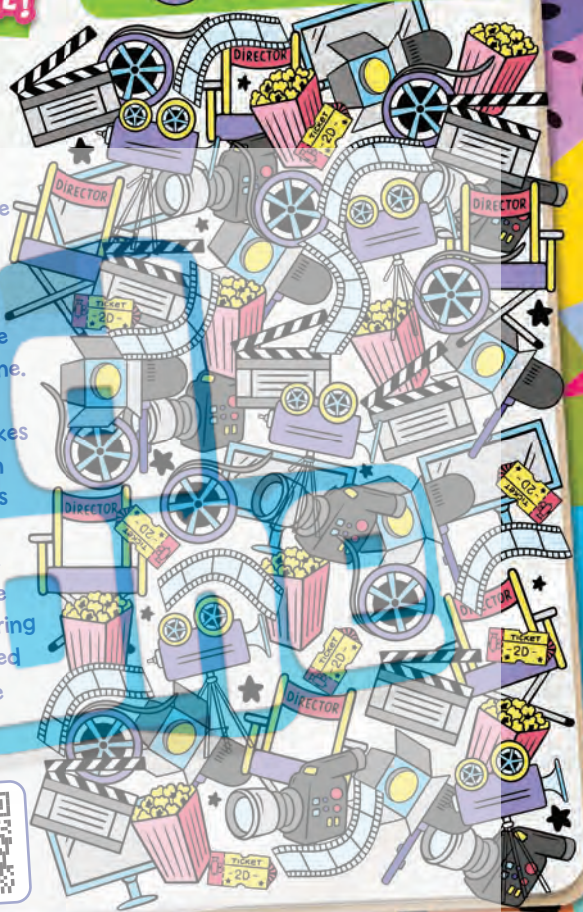
Did you know The Salvation Army has its own film department?

In fact, the Salvos started one of the world's first film studios all the way back in 1891! Wow! It was called the Limelight Department, and you can still see some of its equipment in the Salvation Army museum in Melbourne. These days the media production team, known as Salvos Studios, makes short films and videos to be used in Salvation Army churches, programs and online. This is an amazing way to get the message out about the awesome work the Salvos do in the community and to share the inspiring stories about how God has changed people's lives. 📺 "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel" (Mark chapter 16, verse 15).

Scan the QR code to watch the latest video from Salvos Studios about a church LEGO program!



How many of these movie-making images can you find?



JESUS LOVES YOU! & wants to be your friend!

If you would like to know more about prayer and how to read the Bible fill in the coupon below and send it to us. We'll send you some cool info!

Name: Age:

Address:

Postcode:

Parent's Permission: *SIGNATURE*

95-99 Railway Rd, Blackburn 3130 or email: kidzone@salvationarmy.org.au



ANSWERS

3:B, 4:A, 5:D, 6:C, 7:G.
Fill in the blanks: 1:E, 2:F.
Word square: recording.
Pages: 1-10, 2-5, 3-7, 4-15.
B:b, c:d, d:f, e:e, f:c, 1.
Ck: page 14, Grid 1t: a:c,5.

Competition winners

CONGRATULATIONS TO ...



HARRIET H
(11 - WA)

XANTHE S
(5 - QLD)

CHARLIE B
(11 - VIC.)



... a Spot It!
Animals
game!



Next
Week
in Kids



STARFOX

COLLECTOR CARDS

Collect a new card every week!

1. Carefully cut along the dotted line to remove your card from the magazine.
2. Fold in half.
3. Now stick together and you're done!

FAVE BIBLE VERSE

"Follow God's rules for a happy life." (Deuteronomy 5:29).

FAVES

- Game on!
- Creative
- Guide to
- Minicraft:
- YouTube
- pizza & funfetti cake
- Meat-lover's games! He wears headphones to hear his
- basketball
- Air hockey & brothers Jack and Zack.
- Sonic blue



BITBOY

015



BITBOY

word square

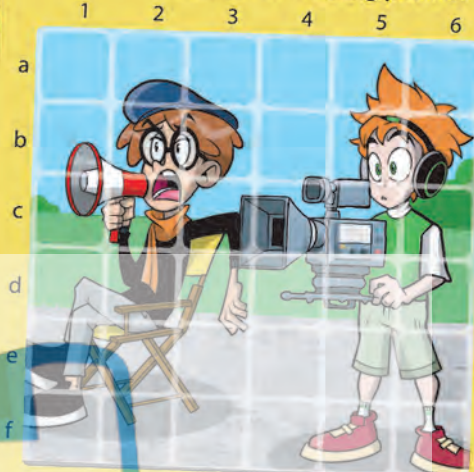
How many words of three letters or more can you make from the letters in the square?

R	D	R
i	E	G
N	O	C

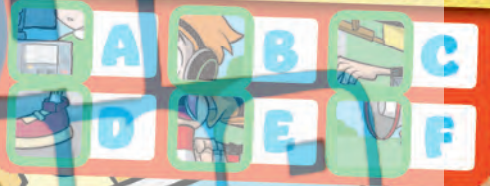
Each letter may be used only once per word and each word must contain the middle letter. There is one nine-letter word.
Clue: capturing footage.

grid it

Can you work out the coordinates of the small squares which are taken from the big picture?



Note: some squares may be rotated.



pages

Can you find where each of these pictures came from in this week's Kidzone?



International Headquarters:
101 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4EH,
General Lyndon Buckingham.

Australia Territory: 95-99 Railway Road,
Blackburn 3130. Commissioner
Miriam Gluyas, Territorial Commander.

We'd love to hear from you...

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fill in the blanks



Locate where each of these squares belong on the map.