

Game Shows August-September 2012

The Game Show youth club was a new course introduced to the Factory Skatepark's youth programme. It was a fun, interactive and a busy club over the six weeks and really challenged the young people who attended.

The programme was based around the young people creating their own 'game shows' over the six week block. This focussed on creating plans for games, score sheets, game cards and fun bonus games using the resources in and around the Skatepark.

The first session consisted of various new young people signing up which was fantastic, along with many of our returning members. This gave the youth workers the opportunity to engage with different individuals delivering a service in which these young people really appreciated. One young girl settled in really well over

the coming weeks making new friends instantly and bringing others along to join the club in week two as well.

Group work was a great way to enhance these skills implementing a range of creative challenges that involved discussion, development of ideas and expression amongst all of the clubs participants.

The creativity of the club really brought to light some of the talents of the young people. The girls excelled in making their score sheets personalised to them as a game player and enjoyed the group work that was involved throughout the process of creating their own game. In addition the boys who attended strived to come up with ideas for the coming weeks to ensure everyone would enjoy the game they created and played.

Involving the young people in the decision making process really did pay off as every week whether it was an interactive quiz show, treasure hunt, bush tucker trial or life size board game the children had fun and learned many new social and personal development skills that they can hopefully continue to build on in their daily lives.

From my perspective as a youth worker this club was a great success and gave the young people and staff the opportunity to tailor each session to the young people's needs. This definitely was a key reason to the development of confidence and personal achievement as from the beginning the young people would work in this informal setting really well sharing creative ideas and over the week put these into practice.