



TASTER SESSIONS OCT 2014

On Wednesdays for the past 6 weeks we have been running Taster Sessions. This club is aimed at showing young people a range of typical activities that we engage in at our Youth Clubs and to introduce new members to the way in which we work and do activities.

Attendance was consistently around 15 children every week. The activities that we engaged in were designed to encourage teamwork and develop leadership skills. For example, a typical activity we run as a reward is to put up the bouncy castle. We did this for taster sessions but had two competing teams, one on the bouncy castle and the other standing off it throwing sponge balls at them like in a game of Dodgeball. Therefore the two groups were competing against each other and had to work together to try and win as a team.

Another aim we had for the young people was for them to learn more about how other people live in the world through fun and educational activities. We focused on two charities one called 'Skateistan' which is based in a Skatepark in Kabul, Afghanistan and "Stay Strong" which is in aid of Stephen Murray who was a world renowned BMX rider before he was

paralysed from the neck down in a crash several years ago. Each charity has a promotional video which we watched and then the young people had two tasks. The first was to create a fact file about either charity which would provide an introduction for anyone reading it and strengthen the Childrens knowledge the charities work. The second task was using arts and crafts to create a caricature that was decorated in merchandise relating to either charity. The idea here was for the young people to have fun doing this activity but also to understand how the charities could make money and discuss how that money would be reinvested in each of the charities, either by improving Stephen's life or the life of the young people in Kabul who attend the Skatepark.

This club is important for us as it introduces the young people to our youth clubs and highlights the various activities we run each week. Therefore we will look to repeat this club again next year.

