



Entertain Others

Background:

The G.I.S. were sent to a variety of countries to help rehabilitate people who had been damaged mentally or physically by the war, had lost homes and families and were possibly living in temporary shelters. Keeping spirits up in a variety of ways was important. The G.I.S. were asked to entertain small frightened children or elderly, frail adults. The most obvious entertainments would be songs, simple games such as I-spy, drawing games, quizzes etc. but some G.I.S girls would be more inventive. In some cases, those being entertained would know little English, so a non-verbal entertainment might be necessary.

Entertain Others Challenge

Think of a way to entertain someone, particularly someone living alone or finding life difficult during the Covid-19 lockdown. The entertainment should be something that would have been possible for a GIS member – so using simple resources and no electronics or electricity.

You can, of course, use an electronic means to record and share your entertainment.

The entertainment could be a performance of some kind, for others to watch/listen to – eg drama, singing, music, dance

The entertainment could be something for others to get involved with – eg game, quiz, singsong, making something together

The entertainment could be something written for someone else to read – eg story, poem, jokes.

The entertainment could be visual – eg a cartoon story, a picture game

Or another idea of your own devising!

Time Taken to Complete:

An hour or two to prepare or practice.

5 minutes up to half an hour to entertain someone.

Equipment Required:

- Ideas and imagination!
- Possibly paper and pens, phone or other video equipment
- Possibly someone to film you!

Safety Precautions:

- **Consider online safety** if an entertainment is to be sent electronically
- Ensure sufficient space for a play or other active entertainment

Challenge Yourself!

Could your entertainment be enjoyed by someone who doesn't speak English?

Can you think of a way of entertaining all age groups from toddler to grandparent?

If people regularly pass your house on their exercise walks, can you think of a way to entertain them on their walk?

Could you entertain a neighbour over the fence or through a window?

Photos:

Geoff Crane, a scouter from Norfolk who was working with the GIS, helping to entertain a group of youngsters. Photo Credit to Mary Evans Picture at the Norwich Millennium Library



ONE OF THE MOST difficult jobs is keeping the great number of children amused. Here Mr. Crane, of Norwich—one of the two male members—is demonstrating various knots. Before anything else, however, the volunteers are studying the Greek language in their spare time.