

	<b>STEM Committee</b> <b>Michigan Crossroads Council</b>	<b>Name:</b>	
	<b>Supernova Activity Topic: Technology</b> <b>Entertainment Technology</b>	<b>Troop:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

## Supernova Activity Topic: Technology

This activity can be done individually or in a group. Many of today's movies involve extensive use of technology to create illusions of magnificent landscapes, mythical beasts, epic battle scenes, and so on. This activity involves learning about some of these technologies and applying them in a real-life setting.

### ***Part 1: Building Knowledge***

Choose a favorite, recent movie that is heavily laden with special effects, available for home viewing, and accompanied by supplemental material that describes and shows how the special effects were created. After you have chosen a movie, do the following:

1. Watch and study the material on the special effects.

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2. Do some supplemental research on some of these special effects to build your understanding of them.

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3. Choose one scene in the movie, or even one frame, and describe in detail to your mentor how that scene or frame was put together using various special effects.

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## ***Part 2: Creating a Grand Illusion***

Develop a plan for creating a still photo or a short video that would require special effects to convey the image or action that you desire to show. Be sure you share your plan with your mentor before you get started. For a still photo, make a crude sketch of what you want the photo to look like. For a video, make a storyboard of the action sequence.

A storyboard is a sequence of rough illustrations that depict the primary scenes or action shots of your story.

In either case, describe the special effects you would use to create each element of the piece. Discuss the following with your mentor:

1. What you would do first and how:

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Supernova Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Troy Lanier and Clay Nichols. *Filmmaking for Teens: Pulling Off Your Shorts*. Michael Wiese Productions, 2010.

The resources represent examples of the types you might use to support your work on a particular activity. You may find alternative and/or additional resources that serve you as well or better than those presented here.

Steve Wolf. *The Secret Science Behind Movie Stunts & Special Effects*. Skyhorse Publishing, 2007.