



## Planning the shoot

Before taking the camera outside, talk to the student camera operators about what's going to happen in the garden and how best they can *filmit*. It is a good idea to agree a shot list in advance – even if there is

only one shot on the list. The key is to avoid shooting for shooting's sake – every shot should have a purpose, and that means planning. For more ambitious groups, a storyboard sheet might be appropriate.

## Using the camera

Conserve the camera battery – leave the camera charging on its dock until just before you use it. Remind students not to put their fingers over the lens. Discourage students from using the zoom control or moving around too

much with the camera– it can lead to shaky footage. Encourage students to shoot close ups as well as long shots – the camera has an excellent close up lens which can be very useful for showing important details.

## Voice-over

Audio can be a bit tricky, especially when recorded outside in the presence of several children all of whom are talking simultaneously. Encourage the camera operator to give a real time voice-over commentary on what they are filming, as they

film it. The camera operator's mouth will be closest to the built-in microphone, so their voice should be clearly audible above the others. It will also help them clarify what they are filming, and why.

## The *filmit* website

It is important to set aside time with students to look at the *Open Futures filmit*

website and contribute their comments to the videos.