

# Table of Contents

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## Introductory Information

<i>HyperStudio: Simple Projects</i> —Its Intended Purpose .....	3
Checklist Technology vs. Integrated Technology .....	4
Selfware .....	7
Creating a Hyperfolio .....	8

## Projects

<b>Spreadsheet Graphmatics</b> .....	10
Combine data gathering, graphing, and progressive disclosure to create effective survey presentations.	
<b>The Apple Doesn't Fall Far from the Tree</b> .....	16
Scan and place photographs of relatives into apple frames on a family tree as part of a family heritage project.	
<b>Gettin' GOO-ey with <i>HyperStudio</i>!</b> .....	28
Use <i>HyperStudio</i> with the morphing ease of Kai's Power GOO to spur students' creative writing.	
<b>Turning Over a New Leaf</b> .....	39
Students use <i>HyperStudio</i> to display and make observations about collected items.	
<b>Having a Great Time! Wish You Were Here!</b> .....	48
This is an alternative to the perennial "What I did over the summer holidays..." writing assignment.	
<b>Storybook Wedding</b> .....	65
Create, narrate, and highlight text with <i>HyperStudio</i> .	
<b>Knowledge Worth Con-TEMPLATE-ing</b> .....	78
Use Ready Made cards to facilitate student productivity and ensure project design consistency.	

## Resources

<b><i>HyperStudio</i> Card Design and Function Sheets</b> .....	83
<b>Out of 'Cite,' Out of Mind!</b> .....	89
<b>Book Reference Sheet</b> .....	90
<b>CD-ROM Reference Sheet</b> .....	91
<b>Dictionary &amp; Encyclopedia Reference Sheet</b> .....	92
<b>Internet Reference Sheet</b> .....	93
<b>Magazine Reference Sheet</b> .....	94
<b>News Article Reference Sheet</b> .....	95
<b>"Dinner Is Served!"</b> .....	96

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# HyperStudio®: Simple Projects

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## Its Intended Purpose

This book is not written as a tutorial on the fundamentals of using *HyperStudio*. Rather, it is a collection of ideas and materials to help facilitate the use of *HyperStudio* across the curriculum. It will provide its greatest value assuming the following criteria are met:

Firstly, it is assumed that you have developed a comfort level with computer technology, and with *HyperStudio*.

Secondly, it is assumed that you will invest an adequate amount of preparation prior to actually doing any of these projects on the computer. The title *HyperStudio: Simple Projects* should not be misinterpreted. The projects themselves have been designed so that they can be accomplished on the computer within as short a time span as possible. However, the projects will require advance preparation that may or may not be as short in duration.

Thirdly, it is assumed that you will have consistent access to a computer(s) and *HyperStudio*. While every effort has been made to structure the projects so that they are manageable in a one-computer classroom, multi-computer classroom, or computer lab, obviously the more access the teacher and students have to the hardware and software they need, the more efficiently they will be able to complete the projects.

With these assumptions in mind, it is hoped that teachers and students alike will find *HyperStudio: Simple Projects* to be a worthwhile help in taking greater advantage of all that *HyperStudio* has to offer.

As previously mentioned, this book is a resource of ideas. It is expected that you will make modifications as necessary to adapt a given project to your own specifications. As you would with any teacher's manual, you should take the information and present it in a manner that suits your needs.



# Spreadsheet Graphmatics

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## Combine Data Gathering, Graphing, and Progressive Disclosure to Create Effective Survey Presentations

### Overview:

This project is designed to transform your students into junior sociologists. We educators know that our students hold a lot of opinions on a host of topics. Spreadsheet Graphmatics is a project that capitalises on students' natural curiosity about what others think and exploits the data-processing and graphing capabilities of computer software, combined with an interactive element, to help students organise, analyse, and present their findings in an interesting and meaningful way.

### Hardware/Software Needed:

- *HyperStudio* for Macintosh or Windows
- Spreadsheet/graphing software (such as *ClarisWorks* or *ClarisWorks for Kids* by Claris Corporation, *Microsoft Works* or *Excel* by Microsoft Corporation, or *The Cruncher* by Davidson)

### Subject: Maths/Study of Society/Science

#### Before Using the Computer (Task 1): Listing Choices for Survey Topics

As an introduction to this project, work with students to brainstorm for possible survey topics. Topics of particular interest to students might include the following:

- Favourite TV Shows
- Favourite Sports
- Favourite Foods
- Favourite Movies
- Favourite Kinds of Animals
- Favourite Hobbies
- Favourite School Subjects
- Favourite Jeans
- Favourite Singer/Group

#### Before Using the Computer (Task 2): Selecting Survey Topics

Once you feel the students have generated a sufficient list of topics, they will need to select which topic(s) they wish to conduct a survey(s) about. Students may need assistance further narrowing down their topics, etc. You will need to decide whether students will work alone or with partners. You may wish to allow students to choose their own partners or to assign certain students to work together. You know your students best, so the procedures involved in this task will no doubt have to suit your particular situations.

#### Before Using the Computer (Task 3): Formulating Hypotheses

Before conducting the actual surveys, have students write down what they think the results will be. Emphasise that the importance of a hypothesis is not in whether it is right or wrong, but that the final determination of its accuracy is based on a careful gathering of data. This data, whether it supports the original hypothesis or not, must never be altered.