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Digital Photo Project 1 – Student Worksheet

From First Day to Last

Product:
Printed photos, PowerPoint presentation, CD-ROM or website

Introduction:
Photographs can serve as a documentary of your entire academic year. Having easy access to a digital camera will make it possible for you to capture those special little everyday moments in life.

Start by taking pictures during the first week of school. How will students change by the end of the year? Ask for permission to bring a camera along on excursions and during special events in class or on the school grounds. Take pictures of school sporting events, performances or just everyday activities.

At the end of the year, put selected images together into a printed photo album or bring them into PowerPoint or a digital slide show program (such as Adobe Photoshop Elements) and present it to the class. You can create your own multimedia yearbook! You can distribute it on CD-ROM or create a class website.

Digital photography project step-by-step:
1. Keep an eye open for pictures of typical and special moments in and out of the classroom.
2. Have the teacher decide on a checkout system for the digital cameras or use your own (with your parent’s permission).
3. Create a folder on your hard drive or network drive called “First to Last” with your initials after it or something similar.
4. Every once in a while, upload your photos to the computer and store them in your folder – see the chapter on working with pictures for information on uploading options.
5. Crop, correct or enhance the pictures as needed or desired.
6. You can combine photos into a montage, add frames or border effects.
7. Add captions, special effects or filters.
8. Compile the photos into an album.
9. For a slide show, use Adobe Photoshop Elements.
10. Burn copies on CDs.

Hints:
• Be sure to get parent’s permission before posting pictures of students on the web.
• Keep some notes on who, what and why.
• Add interesting or humorous captions.
• Framed enlargements make nice presents for your classmates or teacher.
• Take photos or scan student work.
All About Me

Introduction:
Why not create a digital portfolio to show the world who you are and what you can do? You can scan in examples of your school work or have someone take photos of you at work. Sample projects might include musical performances, sports accomplishments, foreign language audio clips or written compositions.

Step-by-step:
1. Make an outline of between 10 and 20 slides for your All About Me presentation – include a title slide and a main menu.
2. In PowerPoint, use the outline view to create those slides. Add a temporary title to each one.
3. Find between five and 15 projects to include in your portfolio.
4. Scan in the work or photograph it. You can have someone take a still photo of you involved in activities such as sports, or playing a musical instrument.
5. Upload the pictures to your computer. Crop, correct or enhance the pictures as needed or desired.
6. Get all graphics to 72 PPI.
7. Create a title page. Create a menu linking to all of your projects.
8. Add comments as needed/desired.
9. Burn a CD or share.

Hints:
• Don’t just limit your portfolio to academic achievements. Include volunteer work, work in clubs and organisations, or examples of your hobbies.
• Find ways to visualise academic work, such as acting out a book report, or being videotaped reading a story. You might take pictures to illustrate a story you’ve written.
• Think carefully about which work should go into your portfolio and what accomplishments it represents.
• Burn the portfolio on a CD or post it on the web. Adobe Photoshop Elements has a nice utility to automatically create a web photo gallery from a folder of image files. It creates thumbnail images with hyperlinks to the full-sized image files.
Serial Imagery

Product:
Printed posters

Introduction:
The pop artist Andy Warhol became famous for his paintings of an object repeated over and over again. His most famous work was a series of Campbell soup cans. Repeating an image is called "serial imagery". Digital photography makes it fun and easy to create your own serial paintings. They can be of objects or people. You will take a picture and use an image editing program to repeat it several times. Each copy can be slightly different to add interest.

Step-by-step:
1. Study the work of Andy Warhol or search for "serial imagery" on the web.
2. Take a photo of a person or an object. It should be relatively close-up and bold. A landscape won’t work well.
3. Upload the pictures to your computer. Crop, correct or enhance the pictures as needed or desired.
4. Try using different filters or effects on copies of your photo. Create somewhere between four and 16 copies of your image.
5. Create a grid layout in a desktop publishing program or create a table in Word.
6. Drop the photos into the layout.
7. Make each photo the same size.

Hints:
- This is a good opportunity to try out different filters and effects.
- It is striking to change the colour balance of each photo in the sequence.
- Making each image square makes for a good layout. You might end up with a 2x2, 3x3 or 4x4 finished layout.
- Changing the colour or creating high contrast colour makes for a striking artwork.
- Try using different images in the different sections for a different effect.
- If you can print your project out poster size it will look like real artwork.
- Shoot an abstract image and create a pattern.
- A "painterly" effect or filter, such as a canvas texture, will make it look like a painting.
"Phoetry"

Product:
Printed photos

Introduction:
"Phoetry" is the combination of poetry and photography. Poetry is sometimes hard to understand. Digital photography can help make abstract poems more "concrete". In this project, you will illustrate a poem with pictures. The lyrics to a song might also be considered a poem. Acting out the poem will help you remember the poem for a long time.

Step-by-step:
1. Select a short poem or song lyrics. Have your choice approved by your teacher.
2. Type up and print out your poem/lyrics.
3. Break the poem/lyrics into stanzas.
4. Make storyboard cards of each stanza to visualise or write a short list of images to shoot.
5. You might go out and shoot photos that illustrate the words or you might work with other people to act out the poem and photograph it.
6. Take several shots for each stanza’s lyrics.
7. Upload the pictures to your computer into one folder.
8. Select the best/most appropriate photos.
9. Crop, correct or enhance the photos as desired.
10. Add the poem/lyrics to the photos or under the photos.
11. You can import these pictures into PowerPoint.
12. Present your "phoetry" to the class.

Hints:
- Select or write a short poem.
- Select something you can act out or photograph.
- Don’t be afraid to use abstract images to represent abstract thoughts.
Time-Lapse Photography

**Product:**
Digital movie file, DVD, printed still photos

**Introduction:**
Time-lapse photography is where you take a series of still photos over an extended period of time and put them together into a movie that shows that process greatly speeded up. You've probably seen time-lapse sequences of a flower opening, a butterfly emerging from a cocoon or clouds forming during an afternoon. Some digital cameras have an interval timer built in so they can automatically take pictures on a pre-set schedule.

**Step-by-step:**
1. Decide on a process that will show change over a matter of minutes or hours.
2. See if you can get access to a camera with an interval timer feature. Many digital SLR cameras have this feature. If not, you can do this manually by taking a picture on a regular schedule (every few minutes over several hours).
3. It is essential that the camera be on a tripod and that it doesn’t move.
4. Set the timer or take pictures on a regular schedule during the process. For example, if it takes a flower two hours to open, you might take a picture once a minute. If clouds form over four hours, you might take a picture every four minutes. A butterfly emerging from a cocoon might take just a few minutes, so pictures should be taken every 15 seconds.
5. Upload the pictures to your computer. Correct exposure, as needed.
6. Bring the stills into a video editing program, QuickTime Pro, or a slide show program and make a QuickTime or other digital movie of the selected stills.
7. Add narration or music, if you wish.

**Hints:**
- An alternative way to do this technique would be to shoot video of an entire sequence and then export just selected stills. Take those stills into an editing program and make them into a time-lapse movie, or attempt to greatly speed up the playback speed of the video.
- Do some thinking about what processes you can effectively show with this technique.
- Keep the camera on a relatively wide angle setting to reduce camera shake.
Project 47 – Student Worksheet

Community History

Product:
PowerPoint presentation

Introduction:
History is all around you. Using a digital camera, you can record the history in your own community. You will take pictures of historical places, buildings or objects in your neighbourhood. You can interview senior citizens or use the local newspaper’s archives.

Step-by-step:
1. Go on photo assignment to look for historical aspects of your community – you might look for old buildings, statues, plaques or headstones.
2. You might interview senior citizens in the community. Take some pictures of that person to include in your project.
3. Keep notes on the locations where you shoot and the people you talk to.
4. Upload the pictures to your computer. Crop or enhance them as desired. You can add titles onto or under the pictures.
5. You may want to make some of the pictures black and white or sepia tone to make them look old fashioned. Adding grain also makes them look older. You can apply a vignette (an oval edge) or border to add to the old-time feel.
6. Arrange the photos into a sequence using PowerPoint or Adobe Photoshop Elements’ slide show feature.
7. Add captions, as necessary. Write about how the photos reflect the community’s history.

Hints:
• Keep note of dates on buildings or statues.
• Take photos of details of old buildings to show their styles.
• Students can scan in old family photos to share their personal history.
Counting Book

Product:
Printed booklet

Introduction:
It might be handy for you to have pictures of one to 20 things. Take pictures of one of something, then two of them, all the way up to 20. You can use your number pictures to practise adding and subtracting.

Step-by-step:
1. Find some objects that you can get 20 of. They might be buttons, marbles or coins.
2. Take 20 pictures of these objects, starting with one of them and adding one more at a time.
3. Get some help moving the pictures onto the computer.
4. Add the number under each picture.
5. Print out each picture and mount it on light cardboard.
6. Practise adding and subtracting using your number photos.
7. Punch holes on the left side of your pages and keep them in a book with rings or a notebook.

Hints:
- Put the camera on a tripod to keep the background the same.
- Take a picture of none of the objects... just the numbers background. This will represent the number "zero".

4
2.5
1.5

3
1
4
Digital Scavenger Hunt

Product:
PowerPoint file or printed photos

Introduction:
Scavenger hunts are fun and they can be educational. In a photo scavenger hunt, the twist is that you do not need to bring back the items, just photos of them. You will probably be assigned to a small team to complete this project, so you will need to cooperate with your teammates and use some problem-solving skills to come up with a winning strategy. Sometimes teachers may assign items that are to be found on the Internet or in books. In these cases, you can right-click (on a Macintosh use Control-click) on the needed photos and save them to your own computer.

Step-by-step:
1. Form scavenger teams or be assigned to one by your teacher.
2. Get the list of the items to be photographed.
3. Do some thinking about where you might find these items and write down a strategy for finding them.
4. Decide whether your team is going to split up or go out together.
5. Go on location to photograph the items. Be sure not to disturb people as you photograph the items.
6. Bring the cameras back to the classroom.
7. Upload the pictures to your computer. If time permits, crop, correct or enhance the pictures as needed or desired.
8. Compile the photos into PowerPoint or another program to make a presentation.
9. Print the photos if needed or desired.

Hints:
• Ask permission before photographing people or going to certain places.
• Don’t just take the pictures in the order in the list, but decide on a strategic route.
• Use a search engine, such as Google, to find items on the web.