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**Video Project 1 – Student Worksheet****Documentary – From First Day to Last****Product:**

DVD, CD-ROM or web site

**Introduction:**

One of the most popular forms of video program is the true-life documentary. In this project, students and the teacher will document what happened in one year at their school. Instead of just playing with a video camera, this gives you experience in photojournalism, documentary filmmaking and digital storytelling. All of the students' projects can be combined into a documentary of an entire school year. This can become a multimedia yearbook. Having easy access to video cameras will make it possible for you to capture the special little everyday moments in life. If video footage of some events isn't available, still photos can also be imported into the video projects.

Take pictures and video during the entire school year or assign a pair of students to specific weeks. Shoot footage of school sporting events, performances or just everyday activities. Be sure to get some close-ups and facial expressions. Ask for permission to take video or photograph special events or locations. You might also ask people for their permission to be included in your production.

After shooting the video, write down some of the things you recorded, including names, dates and your reactions. Review the footage and write an outline for editing. Perhaps you will write and record narration. Someone could edit individual clips from the various students' videos into one "highlights of our school year" show. This could be presented to the class or distributed as a nice remembrance.

**Step-by-step instructions:**

1. Keep an eye open for shots of typical and special moments in and out of the classroom.
2. Have the teacher decide on a checkout system for the cameras or use your own (with your parent's permission).
3. Create a folder on your hard drive or network drive called *My Days video* (or something similar) with your initials after it.
4. Create a blank video project file in iMovie or another video editing program.
5. Review the footage you shot and take some notes on what footage you might want to include.
6. Import the shots you want into your project.
7. Scan or import still photos as desired. Import those into your video project.
8. Add special effects, transitions or make adjustments as desired.
9. Add titles or captions as needed.
10. Record narration (voice-over) if desired.
11. Add music to the video if appropriate.
12. Save your work and output it as a digital movie file for sharing.
13. Output it as a DVD if desired.

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**Video Project 1 – Student Worksheet**

**Documentary – From First Day to Last, continued**

**Hints:**

- Keep the videos under three minutes long.
- Be sure to get parental permission before posting pictures of students on the web.
- Add interesting or humorous captions
- At the end of the year, all of the students' videos can be placed onto one DVD or web page. DVDs make nice presents for your classmates or teachers.

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**Digital Video Project 2 – Student Worksheet****All About Me****Product:**

Digital movie, PowerPoint presentation or website

**Introduction:**

Everyone has a story to tell. Why not create a digital portfolio to show the world who you are and what you can do? You can include video clips of musical performances, sports accomplishments or foreign language audio clips. You could make these into a movie or place the video clips into a PowerPoint presentation or web page. You could include still photos or scans of written compositions.

**Step-by-step instructions:**

1. Make an outline of between five and twelve scenes for your All About Me presentation.
2. Shoot or find between 5 and 12 video clips or still pictures to include in your portfolio. You can have someone shoot you involved in activities such as sports, or playing a musical instrument.
3. Use a video editing program to trim down the clips and save them as separate AVI or QuickTime files for placement into PowerPoint.
4. For a PowerPoint file, use the outline view to create blank slides. Add a temporary title to each one.
5. Use the Insert>Movies and Sounds>From File command in PowerPoint to insert the video clips. Scan in additional work or photograph it.
6. Burn a CD, DVD or share.

**Hints:**

- Don't just limit your portfolio to academic achievements. Include volunteer work, service 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.

## Digital Video Project 3 – Student Worksheet

### The Week That Was

#### Product:

DVD, CD-ROM or website

#### Introduction:

In this project, you will capture and tell the story of what happened in one week in your classroom or school. Students will be grouped into two person teams. Each team will be assigned to document one week of the school year in video. Students will write a script and record narration. At the end of the semester or school year, all of the videos will be compiled onto a DVD. This becomes a documentary on the school year and is especially useful for future classes.

Take pictures and video during the entire week your team is assigned. Be sure to get some close-ups and facial expressions. Ask for permission to bring a camera along on excursions and during special events in class or on the school grounds. You might shoot footage of school events, performances or just everyday activities. You could interview other students to get their reactions and opinions.

#### Step-by-step instructions:

1. Work with your teacher to be assigned a week to shoot video of a special event.
2. Plan on how you will shoot the event.
3. Create a folder on your hard drive or network drive called *My Week video* (or something similar) with your initials after it.
4. Shoot video and/or stills of the event.
5. Create a blank video project file in iMovie or another video editing program.
6. Review the footage you shot and take some notes on what footage you might want to include.
7. Import the footage you want into your project.
8. Scan or import still photos as desired. Import those into your video project. You might want to scan in some items such as student work, handouts or promotional material.
9. Add special effects, transitions or make adjustments as desired.
10. Add titles or captions as needed.
11. Record narration (voice-over) if desired.
12. Add music to the video if appropriate.
13. Save your work and output it as a digital movie file for sharing.
14. Output your production as a digital movie file or DVD if desired.

#### Hints:

- Choose an active visual activity. Pictures of kids just writing in a workbook might not be too exciting. Perhaps there was a role playing activity, a simulation or an excursion.
- You might want to take notes when you shoot the video.
- Keep the "Week That Was" videos to under three minutes each.

**Digital Video Project 4 – Student Worksheet****What I Did On My Summer Holidays  
(W.I.D.O.M.S.H.)****Product:**

Movie file, DVD

**Introduction:**

Video can let you share your experiences with others. Perhaps you went on a vacation where you learned something. In this project, you will create a movie about what you did during your travels. The movie can be made of video you shot, still photos you've taken, or images you find in books or on the Web. You can add narration to tell the story and to point out what you've learned. Finally you can output it as a DVD movie disk to share with others or to keep as a souvenir of your travels.

**Step-by-step instructions:**

1. Take video or still pictures throughout your trip.
2. Review your footage and take note of your best shots.
3. Write a script to tell about your travels or the place you visited.
4. Do additional research on the place and keep an eye out for additional pictures you might want to add to your movie.
5. Scan in any needed printed pictures or get them from the Web.
6. Start a new project file in a video editing program.
7. Transfer your footage and images into a folder on your computer.
8. Record the narration.
9. Start matching visuals to the narration.
10. Add music if desired. Perhaps you bought some CDs during your travels.
11. Add captions/titles/maps as desired.
12. After you finish your production, output it as a movie file and perhaps make it into a DVD.

**Hints:**

- You can tell about your travel in chronological order or by themes, such as people, history, culture and geography.
- You can add graphics, such as maps, to your production.
- This doesn't have to be a summer holiday. It could be on any trip you've taken, including being on an exchange program.

## Digital Video Project 5 – Student Worksheet

### Website Videos

#### Product:

Website

#### Introduction:

The popularity of YouTube has made today's Web surfer expect video on a website. You can use video clips to add interest to an existing site. Consult with a teacher, department or other student who might want some assistance with their website. Volunteer to "spruce up" their site.

Start by becoming familiar with how to prepare video clips for display and delivery over the Web. In addition to developing technology skills, you'll also gain experience in working with and communicating with a "client" in this project and your work will be displayed world-wide.

#### Step-by-step instructions:

1. Consult with your teacher on a website project. Will it be your own or for someone else?
2. Brainstorm how video can enhance the website.
3. Shoot video for the website.
4. Add music or special effects. Be aware of copyright issues.
5. Trim the video clips or edit them as desired.
6. Export the video clips to be optimised for the Web. This will be at a small frame size (perhaps 320 by 240 pixels) and saved using compression. Save in FLV, AVI or QuickTime format (or perhaps all of these).
7. Copy the video files into the website's folder.
8. Insert the video clips onto the desired web pages.
9. Test the video playback over the web.

#### Hints:

- Keep all video files for your website inside a folder for the website.
- You can have text descriptions or small thumbnail pictures linked to playback the video files.
- Keep a copy of the original high quality video in case you need to reuse it.

**Digital Video Project 6 – Student Worksheet****Safety DOs and DON'Ts****Product:**

Series of video clips, DVD

**Introduction:**

Here's your chance to show others how to be safe at school. You will shoot video of safe behaviour and show demonstrations of unsafe behaviour. Some examples are bus loading/unloading procedures, playground safety, science lab procedures or safety on the street. The individual video clips can be put onto one DVD or website with an index of all of the demos.

**Step-by-step instructions:**

1. Work with your teacher to be assigned a Safety Do to shoot.
2. Develop a shooting outline or script for the demo.
3. Go on location to shoot the video. You might need other students to serve as actors, or you might need props. Shoot several takes of the demonstration.
4. Work with an adult to set up and demonstrate unsafe behaviour for the same activity.
5. Transfer the video footage to your computer.
6. Start a "Safety Do" video project file.
7. Crop, correct or enhance the video as needed or desired.
8. Perhaps create a split screen of the right and wrong way to do the activity.
9. Add text captions and titles to the video.
10. Add narration if needed.
11. Output the finished video file as a self-contained digital movie clip.
12. Repeat steps 6 through 10 to make the "Safety Don't" video clip.

**Hints:**

- Stay safe when you shoot the photos.
- Be sure to shoot some close-ups to really show how to do the activity.
- Try different angles when taking the pictures.
- Compile all of the students' safety videos into one DVD or place them on a "School Safety" web page.
- Export some still frames from the videos and print them out for a bulletin board.

**Digital Video Project 7 – Student Worksheet**

**Final Paper/Research Paper Presentation**

**Product:**

Five-minute video or PowerPoint file, with printed paper

**Introduction:**

Who says your term paper has to be on paper? Why not present it in digital form or in a combination of text and video. You can scan in pictures you find that are relevant to your research topic. Even better, you could shoot your own images. You could set up photo or video shoots and act out events in costume or with props. You might visually document experiments or building projects. You can create charts and graphs on the computer to present your data. You could import your video clips into a PowerPoint file to present to the class.

**Step-by-step instructions:**

1. Decide on a topic or have it assigned to you.
2. Research the topic. Can you find or shoot video or still pictures to illustrate it? If not, you may want to switch to a new topic.
3. Create a written outline of the topic. Mark points you want to shoot video or find images for.
4. Download or scan photos or other visuals that illustrate your topic. Save all at 72 PPI for on-screen display.
5. Think about taking video or pictures to illustrate your paper. Can you go to local locations to shoot? Can you act or set-up simulations of others? Perhaps you can use some abstract or general images.
6. Trim or edit video clips.
7. Save video clips in a sharable format, such as AVI, FLV or QuickTime.
8. Write your paper in Word or create an outline of it in PowerPoint or Inspiration.
9. To insert video clips into PowerPoint, use Insert>Movies and Sounds>From File.
10. To insert pictures in Word, use Insert>Picture>From File.

**Hints:**

- Choose a visual topic.
- Abstract ideas can be represented with photos and video. such as a building construction video representing growth, or a river representing change.
- You might find short excerpts from movies or TV shows to help explain your topic. For example, docudramas, newscasts or historical films.
- You can export stills from your video footage and insert them into the printed paper.