

Classroom Applications for the Digital Camera

All of the ideas listed below are intended to be used with a Digital Camera. Once taken, the pictures can be: **1)** transferred to computer, CD, DVD **2)** digitized for printing **3)** used as clipart...

Language Arts/Reading/Writing

- Create sequence stories that integrate language/science: these pictures tell a story – you take the pictures then have students write it. Or as an activity let students take pictures and create the sequence story. Example: acorn, sprout, sapling, mature oak, decayed log.
- Class newsletter illustrations
- Photos of vocabulary items for speech and ESL – allows for individualization
- Illustrate family units, family traditions/heirlooms
- Bulletin board photo journal of classroom activities
- Create a video scrapbook of student's year: art, handwriting, portrait photos, etc.
- Create a personal or classroom alphabet with pictures
- Use pictures for reports and presentations such as "A day in the life of..." students or teachers.
- Take pictures of animals, pets, and people as a tool/supplement for written/oral reports
- Create an "About the Author" section of student writing books.

Science / Math

- Use pictures for concept illustration (art, math, science)
- Take schoolyard pictures that show science terms such as community, food chain, web, etc.
- Math: ask students to take pictures of angles in the classroom or schoolyard. Ex. take photos of acute angles, a collection of odd numbered items, objects that are parallel/ perpendicular. etc.
- Science: relative position. use the camera to show concepts of above, under, over. Also tilt or flip the camera upside down to take pictures then ask where the camera was to get that picture.

Other.

- Strengthen art activities by finding examples of color, line, texture, shape, form, etc. in your classroom building or schoolyard.
- Equipment demonstrations of inputs, outputs, cable ends, backs of monitors, for handouts

School Activities

- Photos for greeting cards
- Photos for "valograms"
- Photos of staff to digitize and post or display on TV network
- Make an art catalogue of student work for Open House or parent review
- Use the camera to create a yearbook
- Photos of new students/support staff to display on TV or digitize/print their photo for welcome board.
- Use the digital camera to create a series of still shots. Insert sound to create a presentation for Open House, video penpals, etc.

Field Trips

- Create a photo journal of field trips
- Create slide show displays that review your field experiences

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"Boulder Cards" - 1970's environmental activities believed to be used with Polaroid cameras.

What Is Power?

Go outside and take a picture of power (Power lines, transformers, car engines, muscles, people or machines lifting things, the principal, a particular person).

More: What is power?

How do you get it?

How do you keep it?

How do you lose it?

How do you sue it?

Who has it?

Be An Advertiser

Create a commercial for some aspect of your environment. Use the digital camera to present a series of slides that support your position (anti-litter, against drugs, take off on a commercial product.).

Be a Changer

Take a picture of something you really dislike in the classroom or school. Then see what you can do to change it. (room, gym, books, lunch-room, computer).

Field Trip

On the next field trip, use the camera to bring back the "feeling" of the place you visited.

More: How does the place you visit work? Create a biological metaphor with pictures.

How does the place you visit "eat"...what does it produce?

Living Together

Pictures of examples of symbioses (relationships of two types of living things) in the world around you. Determine whether they are parasites – one-organism benefits as the expense of the others: mosquitoes/people, communal – one organism benefits but is not harmful to the other – robins/trees, or mutual – both organisms benefit – bees/flowers.

Micro-Communities

Take pictures of the micro-communities you can see from your classroom window or schoolyard.

Who Eats What Parts

Take pictures of items eaten in the schoolyard. Lettuce, elm tree, apples. Who are the consumers?

Decomposers

Take pictures of decomposers in action. Leave some food (moistened bread, fruit) out to mold. Use your digital camera to record what is happening day to day.

Comparing Environments

Use the digital camera to capture different environments - classroom media center, office, teachers lounge, playground, locker room. Compare and discuss factors that make places different.

Interdependence

Take pictures of different things in the environment that depend on other living or non-living elements to live. Identify the dependence, record and discuss.

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"Boulder Cards" – (continued)

Putting Pictures In Order

Organize the class into teams. Have each team of students take a picture at some time during a week long period. Each team should keep the time secret from the other teams; each picture should contain a clue as to when it was taken; at the end of the week, have the students put the pictures in chronological order.

Tracks Or Traces

Have the students go outside and take pictures that show indirect evidence of a population of something (bird nest, foot-prints, cans, cars, desks).

More: Find footprints of a population that should be reduced.

Find footprints of a population that should be increased.

List 10 kinds of indirect evidence for populations.

Find footprints of a population that no longer inhabits this place.

Write A Story About Interdependence

Get any 10 photos taken at random then write or tell a story that includes all the pictures.

Predicting Change

Take a series of pictures that are predictable - clouds, rain drops, wet windows /sunbeam, object. shadow/clock, teacher, school book, notepaper. Explain.

More: Find and document unpredictable change.

Find something you want to change but don't think you can.

Who Is Responsible

Cause and effect. Take 2 pictures - one of which is responsible for the other (people/ garbage; trees/ cracked cement)

Comfortable And Uncomfortable

Take pictures of places where you are comfortable and uncomfortable.

Perspectives: Take photos from the perspective of a cat, bird, ant, person from another culture.

Similes or Metaphors

Create a list of words. Then take pictures of things in your classroom, building, or school yard that show how that object is or is not like your word.

School is like - picture of ant hill

A lifetime is like - picture of highway