

# Using Digital Photography in Your Classroom

General ideas about using digital images in your lesson plans

- You are not stuck with the raw images from your camera. Consider allowing students to edit the pictures using programs like ImageBlender, Photoshop Elements, or KidPix.
- You don't have to print on regular paper. Think about the possibilities of printing on transparencies or magnetic paper.

## Lesson Plan Ideas

Count the Rectangles



### 1. Geometric shapes in the real world

- a. Students investigate their surroundings looking for objects/shapes they have been learning about in Geometry
- b. Have students take pictures of buildings, goal posts, parking lot lines, busses, etc and make flashcards for each shape
- c. You can take the pictures and give them to students and ask them to find how many of a specific shape are in that picture (think of how many rectangles appear when you take a picture of the front of your school)

### 2. Ancient Culture vs. Modern Day

- a. Students will take pictures of modern day objects and compare them to pictures of those same objects from ancient times
- b. For subjects they can use tools, musical instruments, buildings, modes of transportation, and just about anything else they can think of



### 3. Second Language Flash Cards

- a. Students can take pictures of the words they are learning about in their second language class
- b. Works well with concepts like: animals, verbs, emotions, rooms/buildings, body parts, etc
- c. Can also allow students to make a "photo play" and narrate the story in the other language (this would work wonderfully with PowerPoint or Hyperstudio)



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### 4. Create a Photo Book Report

- a. Rather than writing an essay, have your students photograph themselves posing as the characters in their story
- b. Edit the photos (if necessary) and insert them into a PowerPoint/Hyperstudio presentation

### 5. Liven Up Your Excel Graphs and PowerPoint Organizational Charts

- a. Conducting a pet survey? Have your kids take pictures of their pets and insert them into Excel graphs
- b. Teaching the 3 branches of government? Pose your students as presidents, judges, and senators and then use those pictures in a PowerPoint organizational chart

## 6. Spatial Relationships – Map Your School

- a. Rather than drawing a map of your school, why not take pictures of each building and build a picture map instead?



## 7. Explore the Life of Flowers, Insects, and Other Tiny Things

- a. Use the Macro setting (looks like a tulip) to take pictures of very small animals/objects
- b. Photograph the same flower at different times of year to see how it blooms
- c. Students can create "A day in the life of an insect" and then take pictures of an insects home, their food, their predators, etc.

## 8. Kissing-Up to Parents – Pictures for Back to School Night and Open House

- a. This one is easy
- b. Just take pictures of your class doing fun projects and add them to a PowerPoint for Back to School Night or Open House
- c. You can also add these to your teacher/school website

## 9. Physical Education – A "HowTo" Picture Guide for Students

- a. Take pictures of students doing a selected activity; get shots of them doing things the right way and shots of them doing things the wrong way
- b. Post your pictures next to each exercise so kids can see what they need to do



## 10. Community History – History is All Around Us

- a. Assign students to go out and take pictures of historic or civic buildings, senior citizens, local collections, antiques, and even headstones
- b. Use this pictures in a PowerPoint presentation, a Hyperstudio stack, or in a Microsoft Word newsletter/brochure



## 11. Alphabet Photo Book

- a. Have students brainstorm the names of objects that start with each letter of the alphabet
- b. Assign each student a different letter and have them take pictures of objects that start with their letter
- c. Add these to a PowerPoint presentation and show it to parents at Open House
  - i. It would make a very nice addition if you took a picture of each student and added that picture to their PowerPoint slide