

Quick & Easy Digital Photography and Video Projects

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Project Formats:

- Still photos – JPG, PowerPoint
- Flash animations – SWF
- Single-frame animations
- Stills and videos brought together as video
- Videos – MOV, AVI, WMP, MP4, FLV
- Share movies – tape, CD, DVD, online.

Software for producing projects

- iMovie
- Photoshop Elements
- iPhoto
- Premiere Elements
- Microsoft Photo Story
- Picasa
- Tech4Learning - Simply VR
- Flash

Working with digital media files

- Computer file formats-
- QuickTime, AVI, MPV4, WMV, FLV
- DVD's
- HD-DVD

Sources of Example Projects:

- Various organizations and university contests...
- International Student Media Festival
- Film Festivals – youth awards
- Manufacturers' contests- Sony, Apple, Adobe
- Discovery Educator Network
- Apple Student Gallery/ Learning Interchange
- Adobe Digital Kids Club
- Google Videos, YouTube

State and National Festivals:

- The Director in the Classroom.com

Cross Curriculum Projects -

Skills developed & standards addressed:

- Supports all curriculum goals
- Communication skills
- Visual literacy
- Creativity
- Motivation
- Document and share student work

Final paper or research report as a presentation, video or web site.

“Caesar Salad” – cultural understanding

Other Cross Curriculum Projects:

- “From First Day to Last”
- “The Week That Was”
- “All About Me”
- Digital portfolios

The Arts/ Technology/ Careers

Skills developed & standards addressed:

- Creative, technical and vocational skills
- N.E.T.S.
- Fine arts requirements
- Photojournalism
- Media studies, visual literacy
- Classroom gifts and crafts
- Supports and promotes other fine and performing arts work

Macro – abstract photography

Photojournalism assignment

Which is the Fake?: Digital ethics

Conformity –

Things to Notice -

- Striking b&w photography
- Special effects
- Use of music
- Tells a story without words
- Defines visual literacy

“Cereal” – make a commercial**Alco-pops – public service notice**

Things to Notice -

- Newscast production values.
- Involved community.
- Community service.
- Can communicate to peers.

Other Arts/ Technology/Careers Projects:

- Creative, technical and vocational works
- Digital portfolios
- Music into pictures

Language Arts/ Foreign Language

Skills developed & standards addressed:

- Language and writing skills
- Planning and organizational skills
- Problem solving
- Creative writing, creativity
- Visual literacy
- Digital storytelling - communication modes
- Bilingual practice

Photo sequences**The Meaning of Life –**

Things to Notice -

- Great photography
- P.O.V.
- Tells a story
- Humor

I Need the Puppet –

Things to Notice -

- Visual literacy

“On the Road Again” -digital storytelling

Other Language Arts/ Foreign Language Projects

- Story starters
- Mystery objects
- Book reports come to life
- “Phoetry”
- Bilingual photo dictionary

Science

Skills developed & standards addressed:

- Document and visualize scientific principles and experiments
- Macro and time-lapse photography
- Presenting research
- Communicate ecological and other issues

Environmental issues**Planets – animation –**

Things to Notice -

- 2-D drawn animation.
- Flash animation.
- 3-D animation much harder.

“Planets” – animation**Earth – “claymation” –**

Things to Notice -

- Simple animation, young students.
- Active learning.
- Could be used by teacher.
- Script was writing and research project.

“The Secret Life of Stuff” –

single frame animation

360° panoramas, spin objects and time-lapse**Other Science Projects:**

- Weather images
- Extreme close ups, microscope, telescope
- Geographic labels

Social Studies

Skills developed & standards addressed:

- Global studies, cultural understanding
- Discover, review & present social studies facts
- Documenting history and social issues
- Political science exploration

Virtual postcards

Emperor Norton

Things to Notice -

- Mix of stills and video
- “Ken Burns” effect.
- Teacher’s voice?

Coyote Valley –

Things to Notice -

- Used stills.
- Basics of documentary form.
- Researched and organized.
- Local scenes and people.
- Call for action.
- Good audio mix.

Violence in the Media -

Things to Notice -

- Kids had a blast.
- Needed teacher supervision.
- Simple production values.
- Showed their character and imagination.
- Involved lots of kids.

Escape – time and space shifting

Things to Notice -

- Visits another time and place.
- Humor.
- Imagination.
- Team work.
- Kind of cheesy.
- Based on good research.
- More about the process than the product.
- Escape

Other Social Studies Projects:

- Digital world’s fair
- Field trip documentary
- Past, present, future of community
- Family history photo essay
- Time passages

Math Projects

Skills developed & standards addressed:

- Counting skills
- Computational skills
- Visualizing abstract concepts
- Relates math to real world

Shapes or patterns posters**Fraction photos****Gas Math –**

Things to Notice -

- Good way to visualize abstract concept.
- Fun.
- Imaginative.
- Good script.

Other Math Projects:

- Human Bar Chart, process video
- Visual counting

Other Curriculum Areas

Skills developed & standards addressed:

- Rules and procedures
- Health and issues
- Social skills
- Exploring emotions
- Motivational projects

Digital scavenger hunt**Pillars of Character –**

Things to Notice -

- Fun and involvement.
- Cooperation.
- Costumes and learning lines.
- Affective domain.

“For Life” – health and social issues**More Other Curriculum Area Projects:**

- Rules and procedures poster
- Health or issues video
- Emotions mobile
- Picture puppets

Teacher Tools

Uses and benefits:

- Field trip support – share teacher experiences.
- Administrative uses –
 - Identify and document students
 - document vandalism and inventory

- Documents class activities and procedures.
- Share with parents, community and the world.
- Pictures for next year's teachers.
- Classroom gifts.

Virtual fieldtrips

“Carpe Diem” – teacher experiences

More Teacher Projects:

- Visual seating chart & student ID cards
- Class orientation and rules
- Class website, podcast or vidcast

Classroom & project management tips

- Keep videos under 3 minutes
- Encourage using a tripod
- Minimize printing
- Share & distribute projects
- Submitting to contests
- Explain confidentiality & appropriateness
- Check permission to shoot pictures
- Copyright and copying
- Assessing media projects

Judging/grading rubrics

Skill	Exceptional	Effective	Acceptable	Unsatisfactory
Creative Use of Technology	3	2	1	0
Content Choice	3	2	1	0
Organization/Mechanics	3	2	1	0
Personal Reflection	3	2	1	0

Source: Prentice Hall School- Professional Development

Camera management tips:

- Inexpensive cameras for student use
- Standardize equipment
- No “hand offs”
- Keep a camera handy
- Keep spare batteries charged
- Lots of small memory cards and tapes

Your input:

- Share favorite projects.
- Sources of projects/ contests.
- What works/doesn't
- Comments & questions

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