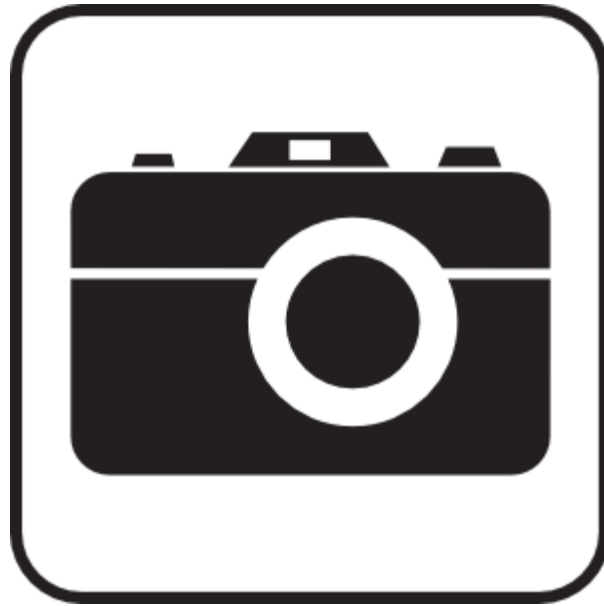


Literacy Through Photography





Literacy Through Photography



- Photo images serve as a powerful vehicle for both verbal and written expression.
- In the classroom, personal photos serve as a springboard to literacy when teachers use student photos to engage students in written investigations of
 - self,
 - community
 - change



Literacy Through Photography



WHY?

- Interpreting photographs/paintings thoughtfully is a core skill of visual literacy.
- Students enjoy telling stories about their lives. Interpreting personal photographs is a strategy to engage students in narrative writing.



21st Century Skill



- The nature of information is changing and visual images are a power method for communicating ideas.
- The curriculum now addresses the teaching of visual literacy across grade levels.
- Students are visually literate when they can interpret and use media to advance learning.
- Writing about personal photographs is a measure of student understanding.



Telling Stories with Photographs



Project Goals

- Students will tell the stories of communities by documenting important places with photographs.
- The interpretation of the photos provide a snapshot of a student's perception of community.
- The project will connect the students with their community.



Project Outline



Step 1 - Connect the project to a study of the community define by curriculum goals. This project has application across core content areas.

- Social Studies - tell the story of a community
- Math - the study of shapes, angles, and lines through the architecture in the community
- Science -



Project Outline



Step 2- To prepare students for the project, teach them to analyze photos by examining pictures and asking:

- *Who* do you see?
- *When* was this photograph taken —
- *What* is happening in the photograph?
- *Where* was this photograph taken?



Project Outline



Step 3:

1. Give each student a disposable camera
2. Take pictures of places that define the community
3. After viewing the photos, the student will select 3-5 pictures
4. The student will share their photos through narrative writing, storytelling, or poetry



Project Resources



There will be a number of students who have access to cameras (digital, phone, iPad, etc.) at home.

Work with the PTA or explore community funding sources to pay for cameras for students who do not have access to one if the school does not have the cameras available for student use.



Sample



The next slide offers a narrative written by a 7th grader who was a struggling writer.

The students were directed to take pictures of places in the community that were important to them.



This is the field where I play baseball. Baseball is my favorite game.

I am happy when I get to play baseball with my friends. I like it when my mom and dad can get off work to watch me play.

I hope to play baseball in high school and maybe go to college.



In my picture is my great grandfather's house. This house holds so much. This house was built a long time ago. He was born in this house.

One thing I can remember is sitting on the front steps and my great grandfather sat in his rocking chair on the porch. My great grandfather has had that chair for a long time. He would tell me stories about when he was a little boy.

When I was little, he used to hold me in that chair and rock me to sleep



Literacy Through Photography



Photographs connect students with their world and offer an engaging classroom activity that will address visual literacy, writing, as well as discipline specific objectives across the curriculum.