

## Ideas for Using Digital Cameras in Writing/Language Arts

**\*\*\*Pics4Learning Lessons** – All of these lessons use digital camera and/or digital images in unique and engaging ways. You will find lessons for math, science, language arts, and social studies.

<http://www.tech4learning.com/services/teachingwithdigitalcameras.htm>

### Ideas for using the digital images in writing include:

- **ABC alphabet book** - use real objects to enhance letter-sound correspondence.  
<http://lincoln.midcoast.com/~wps/jackson/b.htm>  
<http://www.globalclassroom.org/alphabet.html>
- **Adjectives** Take a picture of an everyday object and brainstorm all the words or phrases you can think of to describe the object.
- **Alaska Alphabet Book**  
<http://www.northstar.k12.ak.us/schools/npe/npproject/abc/abc.html>
- **All About Us** Take photos of students and let them write all about themselves – Kindergarteners love this!
- **Autobiographical poem** Insert a digital image of the student. Have students write a biopoem based on a template.  
(<http://scnc.yps.k12.mi.us/commun/ypsiinfo/background/biopoem.html> )
- **Autobiographical Power Point presentation** Students make 3 to 4 slides about themselves for a presentation. Possible topics are family, hobbies, all about me, a typical day at school, or “favorites”.
- **Author** - Use student photo on "[About the Author](#)" section of student writing. Kirsan wrote a web book about Ho Chi Minh.  
(<http://kirsanc.tripod.com/aboutthe.htm> )
- **Book Publishing** from [Linton Publishing](#) (<http://www.lintonpublishing.com/>
- **Class Story or Novel** - write a class novel with “live-action photos” as illustrations.
- **Compare/Contrast** Take pictures of two objects, people, or places. Make a Venn Diagram of their differences and similarities.
- **"Day in the Life"** Use photos to enhance a daily journal. (See Tony Vincent's site for ideas for using these with handheld computers: <http://learninginhand.org>
- **ePals** - write letters to **penpals** and others (such as reading buddies in another grade), inserting photos  
Monster Exchange Project <http://www.monsterexchange.org/>

- **Newspaper/Newsletter** for school or class
- **Parent Updates** - e-mail class updates to parents, with attached photos  
Check out this site if you don't have a system already in place! <http://www.eboard.com>
- **Personification Poetry** – Students write a poem which personifies something. They will then create a clay animation to explain or enhance their poem and present this “performance” piece to the rest of the class.

[http://www.tech4learning.com/pdfs/claykit/personification\\_poetry.pdf](http://www.tech4learning.com/pdfs/claykit/personification_poetry.pdf)

- [Center of town, Woodstock, Vermont, 1940](http://memory.loc.gov/pnp/ppmsc/00200/00240r.jpg)- What happened at this exact spot 6 months before this picture was taken? (<http://memory.loc.gov/pnp/ppmsc/00200/00240r.jpg> )
- [General store interior, Moundville, Alabama](http://memory.loc.gov/pnp/ppmsc/00200/00246r.jpg)- How does this store differ from stores of today? ( <http://memory.loc.gov/pnp/ppmsc/00200/00246r.jpg> )
- [A member of the Wilkins family...Tallyho, Granville County, North Carolina.](http://memory.loc.gov/pnp/ppmsc/00200/00260r.jpg)  
How does this woman's life differ from your mother's life? Your grandmother's life? (<http://memory.loc.gov/pnp/ppmsc/00200/00260r.jpg> )
- **Making Inferences or Deductions** Project an image of a car on the road, a person walking, or a boat on the river, to the Smart Board or overhead. Ask students what clues they see that tell which direction the boat is sailing, what it is carrying, or where the car is, where it is going, where it is from, and so on.
- **Opposites** Take pictures of opposites such as hot coffee and cold water, an object on the desk and off the desk, open door, closed door. Use the pictures to teach and reinforce the concept of opposites or antonyms.
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- **Personification** - Take pictures of ordinary objects. Pass out the pictures to students and have them write a story or description of that object as if it were a person, using personification. Allow students to take the picture of an object of their choice also.
- **Positions** Up, Down, Near, Far, Under, Over, Beside - Take pictures of objects that represent the positions. Make into a book, poster, or flashcards.
- **Sequence** - Take pictures of tasks in **sequence**. Print pictures separately, use to practice sequencing (i.e. baking cookies, making macaroni & cheese, creating an art piece).

