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5. Project Title: “Welcome To Our Class” Collage

Project Description

As a welcome to the class, have students take fun photos and create a display for your entrance door. Students can make large letters – WELCOME TO OUR 5th GRADE CLASS – and then make a photo collage displaying their favorite activities on each of the letters. Students can work individually or in small groups. You might want to assign one letter to each student or each group.

Technology Skills Required

Students will be required to:

1. Take and download digital photos.
2. Adjust quality and format of the photos.
3. Insert the photos into one of the following applications:
 - Microsoft Word* Document.
 - AppleWorks* Document.
4. Save the photos and write-ups.
5. Print the photo document.
6. Display the project.

Teacher and Student Preparation

The teacher will:

1. Decide which application will be used for the finished product.
2. Prepare a sample for the students to review.
3. Make a schedule of what photos will be taken during the day and who will be responsible for the photo download and write-up. See “Student-Project Schedule.”
4. Review the project scope and the role each student will play.
5. Share project sample with the students.

The students will:

1. Need to have an understanding of the type of photos that will be taken and the activity that will follow the photo download.
2. Need to review the “Steps to Good Photo Taking” and the “Camera Operation Checklist” before they use the 35mm camera or a digital camera. If a scanner is to be used, they will also need to review the “Steps to a Successful Scan.”

3. Need to download their photos and arrange them over a letter on their documents.
4. Print their photo collage letters.

Steps Involved

1. The students will take photos as scheduled.
2. The students will download the photos to the application being used for the project.
3. As instructed by their teacher, the students will insert their photos over the letters with which they are working.
4. The students will finish by saving their work, in the prescribed manner, to a pre-selected folder.
5. The students will then back up their work in another predetermined location.
6. The students will print their projects.

Project Worksheets Needed

- Student/Project Schedule

Handy Helper Cards

- Steps to Good Photo Taking
- Steps to a Successful Scan
- Camera Operation Checklist
- Adding Text to a Document
- Downloading a Photo
- Saving a Document
- Printing a Document

Project Example Available (see CD-ROM)

Extension Ideas

1. Bulletin Board Collage

Students can create photo collages for a variety of occasions. They can create bulletin board headings to go with projects done in class. For example, if they visit a tide pool, they could create a bulletin board heading titled - SEARCHING THE TIDE POOLS. Then they could decorate the letters with enlarged photos of things they saw. The remainder of the exhibit might include lab drawings of the creatures they found, a related creative writing activity, or research related to the tide pools matched with photos they have taken.

2. Phonics Activities

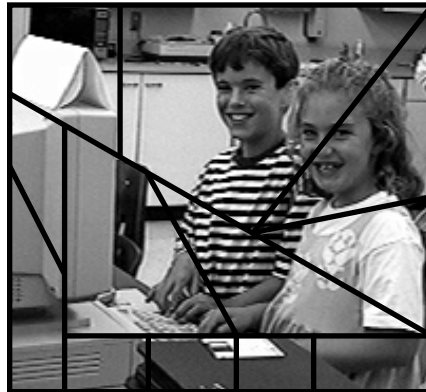
This type of activity works well for younger students who are learning to read. They can take photos of objects that begin with a certain sound for example and then make a collage out of the photos in the shape of the letter-sound they are learning. They can also make puzzles out of photos for each beginning letter sound.

3. Photo Puzzles

Students can take photos of a class activity or curriculum topic area. Then they can arrange the photos on a sheet of tag or poster board and glue or tape down the photos. Have the student try to cover the entire board. Once everything is glued down, have the students draw puzzle shapes on the backside of the tag or poster board and cut out the shapes. Keep the puzzle pieces from one project separate from another by using large freezer type baggies to store the pieces. If a laminator is available, laminate the pieces once they have been cut out.

Making a Puzzle

1. Download the photo that you wish to make into a puzzle.
2. Insert it into a drawing program. (i.e. *AppleWorks*)
3. Add lines for puzzle shapes.
4. Cut out and laminate.



Instead of taking photos, students can collect photos online. This works well for many topics in history, geography, or science.