

Turn Your Technology Whoa's Into Technology WOW's!

By The K-Crew

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Do Digital Cameras Make You Say "Duh"? No Longer!

Did you know that you can use any digital camera to enhance students' learning by:

- Sending students to scavenge for specific items:
 - *letter safari
 - *color hunt
 - *shape, line, and form search
 - *texture tour
- Capturing real-life photos for class books (a la Tana Hoban)
- Responding to classroom literature through photography
- Using photos of familiar objects and people

Cameras

Discount stores like Wal-Mart and Target have several digital cameras from which to choose. The prices range from \$14.99 to \$100.00+. You can get a good "classroom" camera for about \$60. If you don't want to spend your own money on a classroom camera, think about writing a Wal-Mart grant or submitting it to your PTA (or even the technology coordinator or your homeroom parent) for purchase. We like the Sony Cyber-shot cameras, as well as the cheap cameras found at Wal-Mart (Vivitar Vivicam35 and Digital brand). If you are using a camera with a memory stick or memory card, remember that you can always upgrade to a card with more memory (useful for video clips).

Saving Photos

You have several options when saving your pictures:

- *save photos into the default folder *My Pictures*
- *save photos into a folder created by you
- *save photos into a folder on a CD
- *save photos into Adobe Photo Shop Album (a freeware program)
<http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshopalbum/starter.html>

Editing Software

You have even more options when editing your photos:

Download Microsoft Digital Image Starter Edition 2006 (freeware program)

***cropping or resizing your photo**

1. open picture (click on file> open> choose picture or click on open icon)
2. crop (click on format> crop> canvas or click on crop icon)
3. drag borders to crop picture
4. click "done" when finished

***changing the color scheme**

1. open picture (click on file> open> choose picture or click on open icon)
2. click on effects> choose desired effect
3. click "done" when finished

***removing an object (or person) from a photo without distorting the rest of the picture**

1. open picture (click on file> open> choose picture or click on open icon)
2. click on touch up> smart erase (follow on screen directions)
3. click "done" when finished

***duplicating an object (or person) within a photo**

1. open picture (click on file> open> choose picture or click on open icon)
2. click on edit> selection tools> edge finder (or click on edge finder icon)
3. begin clicking points around the perimeter of the person/object until the entire perimeter is outlined
4. click on beginning point to complete the selection
5. duplicate the selection (edit> duplicate or click Ctrl +D) if adding to same photo
6. you can also resize, rotate, crop, flip, or straighten the object under the format menu
7. click "done" when finished

***layering part of a picture on another photo**

1. open picture (click on file> open> choose picture or click on open icon)
2. click on edit> selection tools> edge finder (or click on edge finder icon)
3. begin clicking points around the perimeter of the person/object until the entire perimeter is outlined
4. click on beginning point to complete the selection
5. copy the selection (edit> copy; click Ctrl +C; or click on the copy icon)
6. open other picture (click on file> open> choose picture or click on open icon)
7. paste (edit> paste; click Ctrl +V; or click on the paste icon) onto desired photo
8. you can also resize, rotate, crop, flip, or straighten the object under the format menu
9. click "done" when finished

Lessons

Teacher-Created

Slideshow

School Rules (based on Todd Parr's Dos and Don'ts)

Response to Rosie's Walk

Response to Gingerbread Man

Student-Created

Class Books

Colors

Shapes

Letters/Numerals