

Ideas for digital cameras in the elementary classroom

1. As you are studying colors, have the students walk around the classroom, school or outside taking pictures of the color that you are studying. These pictures may be inserted into a PowerPoint Booklet, called for example, "Things That Are Blue". If you don't want many slides, insert more than one picture on the slide. The students may include their voice and tell you what the name of the picture.
2. As you are studying numbers, assign each student a number and they are to find things that correspond with that number and take a picture of them. For example, if I were assigned the number 3, I would look around my classroom, school, or outside for things that are gathered in 3's. I may find three books together in the library, or three apples in the cafeteria. Then I take a picture of my books or apples. It may be necessary to create their own things on a table and take a picture after they arrange the correct number. Example: I have the number 12. So I lay 12 crayons on the table and take a picture. You can then make a Number Book in Microsoft Word, with each number being a different page. You would have the student word process the word for the number; the figure for the number, and then insert the picture. The student should be able to type his(er) name on the page.
3. As you study shapes, have the students take pictures of various shapes. If they can find something that includes more than one shape in its object, give them extra points. Example: In a birdhouse, the student may find a circle, a triangle, and a rectangle. His perception is excellent and should be recognized. Now what are you going to do with these pictures?
4. You are studying the letters of the alphabet. Don't wait until the very end to create an alphabet book. Begin with each letter and have the students find pictures that begin with that letter. Gather them into some type of publication.
5. Make a classification book, in which the students include pictures that are alike in some way. On the next page, tell how they are similar; or different.
6. Make a Proper Noun--Common Noun publication. The students are to find a picture of something that is a common noun and then find its companion, the proper noun. Place the pictures side by side and label each. This could also be done with nouns or verbs. Make a slide presentation of VERBS in ACTION or NOUNS HANGING AROUND SCHOOL.
7. When studying rhyming words, see if the students can take two pictures of things that rhyme. Place the pictures in a Rhyming Book.
8. The students should be able to create thank-you cards and include digital pictures in the cards, either of themselves or something of their choice.

9. The students would love to take a picture of their choice and then write a few sentences or create a storybook using pictures and their creative story.
 10. Your students are learning the names of the days of the week, or calendar months, create a slide presentation demonstrating what they do on particular days. For the months, take pictures of things that could happen during that month.
 11. Using Graph Club, have the students insert pictures that they have taken for the objects that you are surveying. Example: Kinds of Cereal We Like: take a picture of the cereal boxes.
 12. Create a BODY PART book for science: head, arms, shoulder, legs, knees, trunk, toes, fingers, etc. Students would love to photograph one another. (Great for foreign language too!)
13. Students studying science would be able to create a publication of THINGS THAT ARE HOT; THINGS THAT ARE COLD; NATURAL OBJECTS VS OBJECTS MADE BY HUMANS; COMMON PLANTS; COMMON FLOWERS; or SIMPLE MACHINES. Students can create any type of publication using these ideas.