

USING THE DIGITAL VIDEO CAMERA

<http://classroomvideocamera.wikispaces.com/>

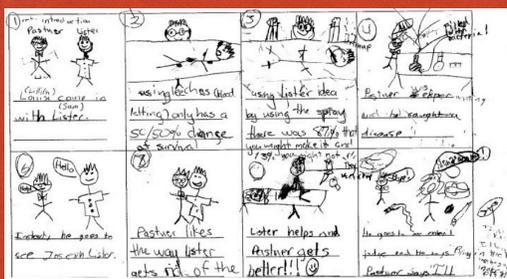
TODAY' AGENDA

- Storyboards
- Shooting Techniques
- Camera Operation Basics
- Privacy Issues
- Tapes
- Group Work
- Lighting
- Practice Taping
- Audio
- Import Video ?

STORYBOARDS

- are graphic organizers such as a series of illustrations or images displayed in sequence for the purpose of previsualizing a motion graphic or interactive media sequence, including website interactivity.

STORYBOARDS



STORYBOARDS

- Templates
 - http://schools.shorelineschools.org/Home_Education/Forms/Video%20Storyboard.pdf
 - <http://www.pbs.org/elections/kids/docs/storyboard.pdf>
 - http://go.hrw.com/resources/go_ss/teacher99/toolkit/TOOLKT06.pdf%20
 - <http://www.digitales.us/files/Calling%20All%20Digital%20Campers.pdf>

BASIC CAMERA OPERATION

- Batteries Charged
- Loading Tapes
- On/Off, where is the on/off
 - Camera-Off-Tape
- Lens Cap Off
- Default mode is Pause
- Center button to record
- Don't get mixed up unless you like floor footage
- Steady by holding close to body

TAPES

- Many video camera manufacturers recommend that you select and primarily use one brand of tape in the camera. Each tape has a coating on it and each brand has a slightly different coating. When these coatings get mixed on your camera head it can cause problems. Brands I recommend include:
 - Sony
 - Maxell
 - Panasonic
- It really doesn't matter what brand, but once you start with a brand in your camera stay with that brand.

LIGHTING

- Lighting is one of the most important elements when making a video. Here are some tips for lighting.

LIGHTING

- Indoors—Fluorescent lighting can be difficult. If there are windows available get as much light from them as possible
- Before shooting, determine where the light is coming from (front, side, or back).
- If backlit, add more light so the front of your subject is lit, or move to another location.

LIGHTING

- Use a bounce card to reflect light on your subject instead of shining it directly on them.
- If necessary, set your camera mode to match your shooting conditions
- Avoid bright sunlight (making sure your shadow isn't in the shot).
- If you're filming inside, turn on all of the lights.

AUDIO

- Audio can be one of the most difficult aspects of taping. If you use only the camera microphone for audio you will have to keep the camera close to those doing the talking. You will also need to have them speak up. Here are some tips:

AUDIO

- Keep your subject close to the camera.
- Eliminate background noise as much as possible.
- Use an external microphone if available.
- Make sure the microphone is out of the camera's view.
- Use headphones to monitor the sound quality.

SHOOTING TECHNIQUES

CLEAR STEADY FOOTAGE

- Use your camera's image stabilization feature, if it has one.
- Use a tripod whenever possible.
- If no tripod is available, hold your bent arm tight against your body or lean against a solid surface to stabilize the shot.

CLEAR STEADY FOOTAGE

- Use your camera's auto focus mode unless it's having trouble focusing on your subject.
- Hold your camera still and instead have the subject provide motion.

THINK ABOUT COMPOSITION

- Make sure all parts of your shot work together — the subject, background, color, and lighting.
- Position your subject off center for a more interesting shot.
- Make sure there is no unnecessary space around the subject.

DON'T FORGET THE BACKGROUND

- Keep the background simple.
- Include a few props that will make the shot more interesting, but not distract from the subject.
- Make sure there are no distracting objects in the camera's view.
- Check that objects don't look like they're growing out of your subject.

GET GREAT SHOTS

- Only use your zoom to quickly switch between close-up and wide shots.
- Try to get at least two types of camera shots for each scene you film: close-up, medium, or wide.
- Use extra video cameras so you can capture the same shot from different points of view.
- Anticipate the action so you get the shots you need.
- Record a few seconds before and after a scene so it will be easier to edit.

CAPTURE CANDID SHOTS

- Make your subjects feel comfortable and relaxed by talking and interacting with them.
- Try to be discreet.
- Bring along a digital still camera so you can incorporate still photos into your movie.

INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES

- A video interview can be thought of as a conversation involving three types of people:
 - The interviewer is the facilitator. (S)he chooses the topic of conversation, asks questions and guides the discussion.
 - The guest is the subject of the interview. (S)he will do most of the talking and get most of the camera shots.
 - The viewer is a silent observer who has been invited into the conversation.

INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES

- This creates a three-way interaction. A successful interview will include all three groups in the correct mix.
- Typically, the interviewer begins by setting the scene. They invite the viewer into the conversation by introducing the location, guest and topic. At this point the interviewer is probably speaking to the camera as if they were looking the viewer in the eye.
- Next, the interviewer turns to speak to the guest. Then follows a fairly one-sided conversation in which the interviewer asks questions which are (usually) designed to encourage the guest to talk a lot.

INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES

- Next, the interviewer turns to speak to the guest. Then follows a fairly one-sided conversation in which the interviewer asks questions which are (usually) designed to encourage the guest to talk a lot.
- The way the interview progresses will depend on the situation. A short interview will last long enough to get the information from the guest and then close, often quite abruptly. A more in-depth or personal interview will usually go through a settling-in stage where simple facts are discussed, then move gently towards the more thorny issues.
- The interview is usually concluded by thanking the guest. The interviewer may then turn back to the camera and say goodbye to the viewer, as well as tidy up any script requirements such as leading to the next piece in the program.

PRIVACY ISSUES

- If students will be in your taping get a Student Information Release signed.
- Send accompanying letter explaining why their student would be in the video.
- Get releases before shooting, if you get them after and parent does not sign, you cannot use footage with that student.

LET'S SHOOT SOME TAPE
