

Lesson 1

Hello Photography!



Materials Needed: Computer, digital projector, and digital cameras.

Students Will

- **Know:** Camera care and basic functions (turn on/off, zoom, flash control, picture review).
- **Understand:** It helps to think about what picture you want to make and why you want to make it before you make it, but discoveries can always happen in the process.
- **Do:** Use a digital camera. Be able to share cameras if necessary and work in small teams.

Lesson Plan: (1 hr, 15 min)

- Teachers and students begin by introducing themselves, and volunteering one adjective to describe themselves. Teachers record students' names; take photos of them or use name tags if it helps. (5)
- Show Aperture On Sight program video. (5)
- Describe what the students will do in this class; ask what students want to learn. (5)
- **Warm-up:** Ask students to work in pairs to come up with one word that describes their school or its community. Ask them to share ideas with the class. (10)
- Make a list of these ideas for the photo scavenger hunt. Focus their ideas on what could describe this school and the community in visual terms. (5)
- Camera care modeling: Ask students what they know about using a digital camera. How do you take care of the equipment? Ask an interested student to model careful camera use, and have other students make observations out loud about what they notice. Make a list that comes from student ideas. (10)
- **Photo exercise:** Hand out cameras and send students on a photo scavenger hunt seeking the visual ideas from the list they created. Tell them to think of other things to photograph based on discoveries in the viewfinder or on the digital screen. (15)
- Review the list again. Who got everything on the list? What have they discovered for themselves about the cameras, zoom, flash, and picture review? What pictures did they take that describe the school? (10)
- Have students begin working on the photography pre-assessment found in AOS workbook. (10)

Staff Follow-Up: Create mini photo-essays of the classroom scavenger hunt; review handout and slide show for next class.

Going Further: Ask reflection questions: *“Did you learn anything new about your school through this assignment? Which words were hardest to photograph and why? How did you represent your ideas with photographs? How can photography describe invisible things like ideas?”*