



PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT AREA



This project area is designed to help you explore the world of photography. From learning about camera equipment to capturing great images and sharing what you have learned with others, you are bound to love photography!

Ideas for Project Area Learning

- Learn all the parts of your camera.
- Use tripods and bracing to steady and level your camera.
- Try various lighting techniques.
- Use flash for fill and solving red eye.
- Study photo composition.
- Try out different viewpoints.
- Take photos of places, people, and pets.
- Tell the story with photographs.
- Learn to evaluate photographs.
- Try different shutter speeds and aperture.
- Adjust the depth of field.
- Practice using hard and soft light to create moods.
- Manipulate light using flash techniques.
- Evaluate composition using the rule of thirds, the golden triangle, and the golden rectangle.
- Use photographs to tell the story.
- Take candid photos to capture a moment in time.
- Use wide angle and telephoto lenses.
- Practice with light sources.
- Use viewpoints, framing, and lines to lead the eye.
- Use a trait, shape, pattern, and texture to capture creative photos.
- Use specialized equipment to learn advanced photography techniques.
- Learn about using photo editing software.
- Explore video production and using photographs to create them.
- Learn about lighting techniques and how you can use them to enhance your photographs.
- Practice using different flash techniques.
- Keep a photography journal to track your progress.

APPLY WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED

Communication

- Tell your friends about the different types of cameras.
- Interview a professional photographer.
- Demonstrate how to present your photos properly.

Civic Engagement

- Photograph your club activities and make an album to share.
- Volunteer to take photos for a community event.
- Help archive historical photos.

Leadership

- Show your friends how to create trick photography.
- Arrange for a guest photographer to present to your club.
- Organize a photo shoot for a local organization or your school.

Entrepreneurship

- Write a business plan for creating your own photography business.
- Provide and sell custom framed photos.
- Sell your images online through print-on-demand stationary platforms.



Goal Setting and Record Keeping

Goal setting is an ongoing process that guides your project area learning. Having goals is like having a road map to show you how to get you to where you want to go. Record keeping is also an ongoing process and another important life skill. In 4-H, you are encouraged to select from a variety of record keeping formats to meet your own personal needs and your preferred learning style. Keeping records of your learning experiences helps you determine how well you met your goals. Goal setting and record keeping improve your skills in organization, communication, planning, and evaluating.

Iowa 4-H Event Opportunities

- Participate in **county and state fair** exhibit classes.
- Check with your local county 4-H youth development staff to see if there are special events or **workshops in your county** that you want to attend to learn more about your project areas.
- Iowa 4-H members in grades 9–12 can apply for **State Project Area Awards** at State Recognition Day. Applications are open December through January.
- Meet young people from around the state who have completed grades 8–12, and share your interests at the **Iowa 4-H Youth Conference** held at Iowa State University in late June.
- Take part in the statewide **Camera Corps** program to sharpen your photography skills year-round.
- Meet high school students from around the nation and develop your skills in photography at the **National Photography Summit**.

Share Your Learning With an Exhibit

- Identify the different parts of a camera.
- Select, mount, and matte a photograph.
- Photograph different subject matter, such as portraits, and self-portraits, pets, landscapes, panoramas, buildings, reflective, sports, or still life.
- Experiment with color variations like black and white, sepia, or bright colors.
- Use a computer to render photos such as enhancing color, making color corrections, or using filters.
- Present a poster about matting and framing photographs.

CAREER CONNECTIONS

- **Commercial photographers** maintain studios and work with digital photography to create high-quality images for clients.
- **Marketing photographers** take quality images for advertisements.
- **Photo editors** redesign photos through editing and positioning applications.
- **Wildlife photographers** work outdoors to take live action shots of wildlife.
- **Wedding Photographers** take pictures before, during, and after the wedding ceremony, as well as editing photographs afterward.

EDUCATION CONNECTIONS

- **Art history** students study the history and innovations of art, as well as write reviews.
- Students in **photography** learn more about color balance and artistic practices.
- Study **marketing and advertising** if you are interested in working with media, researching a market, and business ethics.
- If you enjoy creating artistic designs and communicating through images, study **design and visual communications**.
- Unleash your artistic and computer creativity by studying **graphic design!**

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