

Taking a Good Photo

Seven **Tips** in taking a good picture. Our goal as Educators is to create lifelong learners for our students. Have you ever taken an under or over exposed picture due to poor lighting, out of focus, or just an ordinary photo? Here are some helpful tips in helping that normal snapshot out of the ordinary. Who knows, we might have that next [Ansel Adams](#) in our schools?

Here are some things to share with your students before you hand them that camera or camcorder.

1. Always be prepared and take a lot of shots. If you press the shutter down half way before you take the shot it will pre-focus the image.
2. Lighting is very important. Think about the lighting of the hand technique on lighting ([see video](#)) In other words know where your light source is coming from.
3. Rule of thirds, eyes end up on a focal plane. Put something in the section of thirds that will draw your eye to that section. In a landscape shot move it from the middle, put the horizon on either the upper third or lower third.



4. Climb on things (safely), lay on the floor, I almost never stand straight up when shooting. Change your perspective don't look for the average, normal shot.



5. Don't be afraid to fill the Frame. Take close ups of your subject. This creates a sense of being right there.



6. Keep the time of day in mind. Photographers refer to this as “The Golden Hour” It is about an hour after sunrise and an hour before sunset. If you have to shoot outside in the middle of the day, have subject under a tree or next to a building in the shade. Direct sunlight creates a hard harsh light. An overcast day is a photographer's best friend, so almost any day in Western Washington. 😊

7. Include Perspective

