

Click in the Classroom: your day at school RCPS 11-2-10

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- **Welcome --- this is Click in the Classroom**
I am here as a volunteer to help you get consistently better pictures out of your camera. First we'll cover the reasons you take pictures, then I'll share the 5 digits of digital as they relate to the classroom, then we'll talk a little about how to reduce the use of ink; finally I hope we have time for questions, so unless you are asking for clarification of a point, hold questions till then
- **WHY you take pictures --- you are a TEACH'R™**
 - Tell the students information
 - Expand, enhance, or extend the lesson
 - Apply the lesson
 - Check the learning
 - Help the students see their success
 - Remind yourself of your good work
- **HOW you take pictures --- is in the 5 DIGITS of DIGITAL**
 - based on the book Demystifying Digital Photography
 - the 5 digits are, Settings, Light, Focus, Composition, Editing
 - since the book is 54 pages, and the course at JMU is 20 hours, we will only talk about the things that will help you in the classroom
 - **BASIC** things - the camera is a tool
 - AUTO works 80% of the time everywhere BUT in a classroom
 - Keep your camera charged at all times; and handy
 - Protect your camera from impacts, liquid, temperature changes
 - Camera see Red, Green, Blue, or RGB light while printers use Cyan (blue), Magenta, Yellow, and K/black, or CMYK
 - Camera sensors are LITERAL; our brains have filters
 - Pixels are squares of color (Twain and Pap images)
 - **SETTINGS** - on the camera can overwhelm you
 - Manual is like a dictionary . . . know what you need
 - Getting stuck somewhere is the biggest frustration >Review
 - Multiple dials to do the same thing!
 - Before you shoot, make sure date is set; but not on print
 - Start at AUTO with the flash OFF; use two hands to shoot
 - In your classroom, before you need to, take a few shots
 - Try some with the flash off and some with it on
 - Check what you've shot on your computer and printer
 - Make adjustments based on what you see
 - Find the +/- button and press to ADD light (=brighter)
 - Find the WHITE BALANCE (in menu) and choose fluorescent (3)
 - Play with the SCENE buttons; bracket may be best choice
 - Children and Teachers are always in motion! ! try a scene
 - Image Stabilization and SmartCapture are your friends
 - Choose whether on-screen review happens

- **LIGHT** - photography comes from Greek, light writing
 - Fluorescent light is green - our brain corrects for it
 - Children move; motion shuffles light
 - Flash provides enough light to correct green/stop the action
 - Red-eye flash rarely works
 - Sensor on the front of camera reads available light
 - Light travels in straight lines, but it bounces! use hood
 - If a face is in shadow (hat) force flash (even outside)
 - **Compass your shots (center, N, E, S, W)**
 - Light has three forms (natural, artificial, flash)
 - Temperature of light has to do with wavelengths (red v blue)
 - Angle/light on subject affects image (above, side, behind, diffuse)
 - More light means more detail and less risk of shift!

- **FOCUS** is a two part issue involving clarity and content
 - give your camera time to focus (half press)
 - choose multi auto focus (**NOT** single or continuous)
 - keep those elbows tucked in
 - use the pixels you need and no more (2MP for 8x10)
 - make sure to point the camera at what should be 'in focus'
 - After the autofocus, shift slightly if you need to do so

- **COMPOSITION** is targeting your message
 - Choose the focal point of your picture with director's hands
 - use 'clean' backgrounds (bulletin board paper)
 - **NEVER** shoot 'up' toward an adult, or 'down' to a child (level)
 - take the time to arrange the shot; check light and clutter
 - portrait is a tall; landscape is wide
 - move your feet rather than using the zoom! !
 - compose with the camera so you don't have to edit

- **EDITING** (like you have time for that!)
 - brightness is the most important fix you can make
 - contrast is the next (diminish face shadows)
 - crop if you didn't do it during composition
 - Teachers have little time for editing! !

- The **RESULT** of taking pictures is usually a **PRINT**
 - Prepare the image to limit how much ink will be used
 - resize the image to fewer pixels
 - crop to the minimal printing area
 - use shapes to trim the edges (Word, iPhoto)
 - Review brightness, contrast, and content before you print
 - Ink is not the same as LIGHT on your screen; inkjet v laser
 - Nothing goes to waste - use what you print, even accidents
 - Take time to decide **BEFORE** you print
 - make a scrapbook for the year, or a dvd
 - print a black/white first to check size before printing in color
 - print one picture to check color before printing the whole class