

Title: PICTURE STORY

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Environmental Education Team

Grade Level: 4-6

Concepts: 2. Ecosystem
9. Change
11. Individual Acts
12. Stewardship

Disciplines: 1. Language Arts
3. Social Studies

Objective:
Upon selecting a school yard topic, students will decide kinds of areas they want to show in pictures; take such pictures and. write a narrative for each to present to class or develop into a display.

Rationale:
This activity enhances group cooperation and decision-making, requiring thoughtful application in order to best show their selected yard theme. It causes students to be observant of areas in order to best illustrate their theme and develop skills in photography and language and can be done at any time or over a period of time, if necessary.

Materials Needed:
Camera, film

READ THROUGH THE ENTIRE ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS BEFORE YOU START

Directions/Activity:

1. Before going outside as a team, decide what you want to show others about your schoolyard. You can select such as: what is nice about it, what is bad about it, or show areas that could be improved. Make a list of at least three (3) places where you will take pictures to show the message you want to portray. List them here:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

PICTURE STORY

2. Since pictures are expensive you have to be selective in what you take and how many you take. There are different kinds of cameras you can use and different types of film. The quickest way to do this is to use an instant type camera like a Polaroid (Kodak also has a similar camera) that develops the picture immediately. Other cameras can be used that have roll film, 8, 12, or 20 exposure, color or black and white, and either prints or slides depending upon the film used. But for these you have to wait to get the Pictures developed. Then you are ready and know how to use the camera, have each member of the team take one or several pictures of the places you selected. Some quick hints:

- a. Hold the camera steady when taking a picture
- b. Get as close to the picture subject as you can and still get all you want to show on the picture.
- c. Have the sun behind you or to the side; never take pictures into the sun.

3. Once you have the pictures taken, write a description for each. This is called a narrative to tell your story about each place you selected and the pictures you took. Your story (narrative) should tell why you choose to show what you did, what's good, bad, or can be improved, and what it means to your schoolyard. You have to tell your story completely, but in as few words as possible. And you can mount your pictures on cardboard, and print out your narrative next to each picture for a display. Try to come up with a good title for your presentation. (If your pictures are in slides, you may show them to the class with a slide projector and your narration for each picture.)