Acquiring Digital Images

Module Outline

1. Digital Images: Overview
   In this session we will explore how to capture digital images from a variety of sources to promote literacy development. To complete classroom projects, most of the digital images you capture will typically be used in conjunction with other software applications such as presentation tools or desktop publishing software. However we will start you off with some sample digital imaging activities and build on these skills as we progress.

2. Discuss classroom activities that use digital images to promote reading and writing. (See Sample Projects for some ideas).

3. Skill Acquisition: Review techniques for capturing images from the following sources listed below (depending on what is available at the site). If more than one facilitator is present, set up multiple stations, divide the class into smaller groups, and have them rotate through each center.
   - Digital camera
   - Scanner
   - WWW pages
   - Clip art CD-ROM

   If advanced users are present or stations are full, encourage students to work with one another to brainstorm different classroom applications.

4. Brainstorming: Have pairs brainstorm ideas for using digital images in their classroom. Write down these lesson ideas.

5. Share ideas with the entire group (Facilitator should use Inspiration to capture main ideas).

6. Transition into presentation tools or desktop publishing.

Sample Projects

Project: Story Mix-ups
Grade Levels: K-2
Area: Comprehension
Skill: Sequencing
Digital Picture Cards
Use a digital camera to capture a classroom event or fieldtrip. Print your pictures and laminate them to create cards that the class can use to retell the event place “cards” in sequential order.
Adaptations:
Scan pictures from a book that the class is reading. Print these images and create cards that students can use to retell the story and practice placing items in sequential order.

Project: Literature Springboards
Grade Levels: K-2
Area: Vocabulary development
Skill: Sorting and Classification
Create activities that are based on books your students are reading. For example, after reading *A People House* by Dr. Seuss, you can print out pictures of household objects taken from Web sites, scanned images, or from the digital camera, and have students work in pairs to sort the pictures using various classification strategies.

Project: Current Events Connections
Grade Levels: 3-8
Area: Writers Workshop
Skill: Various writing conventions
Scan newspaper clippings, cartoons, magazine articles, etc., to discuss and illustrate the use of various writing conventions. Have students contribute to the discussion by bringing in published samples they wish to add to the scanned file collection (later, you will learn how to import image files into a slideshow tool like PowerPoint or AppleWorks). Try to find non-examples and misprints, and build your collection of digitized sample files.

Project: A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words
Grade Levels: 5-8
Area: Literature Study
Skill: Imagery
“...the envious moon, who is already sick and pale with grief that thou her maid are far more fair than she.” Romeo: Act II, scene II, lines 4-6

This excerpt from Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet is one example of how an author uses imagery to paint vivid pictures in our minds. After the class has studied the use of imagery in writing, you can use the digital camera, scanner, or pictures from the Web to present rich visual images from which students can express their own forms of imagery. Students may also capture their own images from various sources.
Reflection and Brainstorming

- Where might digital images be useful in your curriculum?
- Have the activities described above given you some ideas for how you might use digital images in your classroom with your students to promote reading and writing?
- Jot some of your ideas below:

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Special Education Notes and Adaptations

Digital images are very useful for individuals with disabilities, and the possibilities for curriculum adaptation are endless. Two general categories are offered here—teacher use of digital images and student use.

Teacher use:
Make a class directory for younger students using digitally captured images. Incorporate students’ pictures into language experience stories. Use digital images to illustrate stories and worksheets.

Student use:
Teach students how to capture images from the internet and show them how to use these images in reports or stories.

Sample NETS Connections

- Grades 3–5: You Were There!, p.48
- Grades 6–8: Creating a Heroic Character, p. 56
Explore these Web sites
Digital Image Collections and Clip Art Sites. Here are some sample sites, but be sure to check out Project Impact Resource site:
http://web.utk.edu/~impact/resources.html

- Art Today: http://arttoday.com/PD-0028209
- Clipart Connection: http://www.clipartconnection.com/
- Clipart.com: http://www.clipart.com/