Have you ever wondered where the expression “A picture’s worth a thousand words” came from? Do you often stop to take a second look at something and think, “This would make a great...”

CONNECTIONS

Everyone sees life through their eyes differently, and children especially have a unique perspective. Why not place a camera in their hands and see what the world looks like to them? “Tell what you think!” Take on the director role and show the world what you see! Spotlight – Camera – Shoot! It’s all on you!

What makes you laugh? What is beautiful to you? Where did you spend your time? Do you see anything at a unique angle or out of the box that would release the artist in you? Since everyone sees differently through a camera lens, go be creative and just have fun.

With a digital camera, it is easier than ever to delete a shot that wasn’t what you thought it would be, or try a retake. You will have the instant gratification of seeing how you want your picture to look. For your next step, print out the best pictures and spend some time putting together a photo album or a collection of photos that say something about you. Try a theme like “My Summer” or “A Day in My Life”.

Database Focus

The Digital Photograph Archive is a database that stores PPLD’s collection of photos taken in the Pikes Peak region. The archive includes pictures of paintings dating to the 1810s and photographs of the region from the 1850s to the present. We hope you’ll seize these opportunities. With camera in hand, let the photo shoot begin. The challenge is to capture pictures of you – a day in the life of you! Something you can look back on and remember. What makes you laugh? What is beautiful to you? Where did you spend your time? Do you see anything at a unique angle or out of the box that would release the artist in you? Since everyone sees differently through a camera lens, go be creative and just have fun.

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Take on the director role and show the world what you see! Spotlight – Camera – Shoot! It’s all on you!

Paper Bag Photo / Memory Album

To create:

1. Take some of the sheet protectors from the back of this issue for future use!
2. Take the pre-cut pages from the issue (plus any extra postcards you may have)
3. Take a photo in the background, either a photo from the past or a current photo
4. Tape one of the pages over the crease, or hole punch and tie the pages together with ribbon and string
5. Tuck photos on them to glue onto the pages
6. Attach photos on them to punch
7. Put the pages together
8. Tuck and fill with letters, drawings, or photos
9. Slip the completed album into the pockets or glue onto the pages
10. Tuck mementos into the pockets or glue onto the pages

Next, using different craft or colored papers, cut cards to fit inside the open pockets. Attach photos on them or use papers, cut cards to fit inside the open pockets. Attach photos on them or use...
How to Teach a Slug to Read
by Susan Pearson (2011)

If you have a young child reading to learn, or older children who are readers, this is a great little book. We see, as the readers, all the important steps in learning to read, from labels, to Mother Goose, I mean Mother Slug, rhymes. And the story is fun, fun, fun; the learning is incidental. Steps in learning to read, humor – ages 4 - 9

Sophie’s Lovely Locks
by Erica Pelton Villnave (2011)

Sophie loves her long hair, how it feels to swing it, braid it, and wear fun clips in it. She borrows her mom’s wavy iron to straighten her hair to help kids with no hair at all. There are three organizations listed at the back of the book. Each website specifies length and condition of hair that can be accepted, and each has a different thickness/length, from 8 to 12 inches.

These Hands
by Margaret H. Mason (2011)

Both a family story and historical fiction, grandma helps her grandson tie his shoes and begins telling him about his own hands and what he has done in his life. By the middle of this brief book, we learn that blacks were not allowed to touch any of the bread during production in the 1950s and 1960s – they could only sweep the floor, flip machines, and drive trucks.

Won Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku
by Lee Wardlaw (2011)

From shelter to adoption and settling into a new home, the story is told entirely in haiku.

Language arts, poetry – ages 5 - 12

Novel Ideas
Homeschool Book Club
Join other homeschool teens for an afternoon snack and discussion on a great book! Contact Molly Pace at 531-6333, x2338 or mpace@ppld.org for current book selection or other questions. The last Wednesday of the month 2 - 3:30 p.m. • Penrose Library

Homeschool Lunch Bunch
Join us for a different hands-on family learning experience every time. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy after 1:30 p.m. and, when not dancing around the house or barn, she is either riding her scooter or playing with her American Girl dolls.

Featured Homeschool Family: The McHugh Family
How old are your children?
Seven years old and Molly is 7 years old.

Why did you decide to homeschool?
I had been teaching elementary school for several years when one weekend I decided to go hear a recommended education consultant and another named Carolie Joye Show. She discussed the philosophies of Dr. Raymond and Dorothy Moore as well as Charlotte Mason and these were so contrary to the traditional teaching methods I had been taught, that I was really intrigued about this “homeschool thing.” Hearing about all the research on the learning styles of boys in particular, and seeing my newborn son in his stroller next to me, my heart began to be convinced. Learning that I could give my children a superior, Christ-centered education through reading real, living books was resonating with me and I was now on a mission.

What curriculum do you use?
The method we use in our home is mainly literature-based, meaning we read lots of books throughout the day for our history, science, social studies, etc. We do use a math curriculum: Teaching Textbooks for my son and Math U See for my daughter. A lot of our time is spent online taking ballet and tap lessons and, when not dancing around the house or barn, she is either riding her scooter or playing with her American Girl dolls.

Would you like to be a Featured Family? Contact Deborah at dworthy@ppld.org

Homeschooling Lab
Homeschooled students can use PPLD’s science equipment for parent-assigned experiments, with the help of our volunteer. A parent must accompany the homeschooled students to volunteer to lead a science lesson, but it’s not a requirement to use the Lab. Contact Callie (gsohns@ppld.org) for more information.

Knock, Knock!
by Tad Hills (2010)

Cute, brief, with flaps you lift to reveal the final line of the joke, this is exactly what the cover proclaims – a first book of knock-knock jokes. Language arts, jokes – ages 5 - 8

Little Known Secrets
Shelfari – Reading with Others
Pikes Peak Library District’s main focus is to “seek, engage, and transform” people’s lives through the wonders of reading. What better way to do this than finding other individuals of similar interests? Shelfari is the ideal website for active participation among like-minded people. People can review their favorite books, post their shelves on blogs and social networks, and encourage their friends to join as well. Shelfari is an ideal option for a homeschool family to remain in contact with other homeschool families. Groups can be formed of like-minded individuals and popular books can spread like wildfire, encouraging literary growth and stimulating interest.

On PPLD’s main page, simply click on the “Find a Good Book” option. There are so many amazing websites and databases in this area, but for the sake of space, we’ll only focus on Shelfari. In the list of links on the left of the screen, click “Interactive Book Sites.” Shelfari is #5 on this list. The sign-up is simple, although there are a few steps to be taken to enhance your percentage of participation. Mostly, this site is an excellent resource for use in tracking the books you and your family read without having to write them all down somewhere. Then, the website can be entered into the shelfari bookshelf, be it 50 or 500, and you can even update information for different books, such as character profiles, book summaries, or even writing book reviews.

Best of all, there are already homeschool groups present on Shelfari. You can start a group of your own or simply join one that’s already in progress. You can have one main account for the entire family or each family member can have an account, convince their friends to join, and talk about nothing but books, books, books. After all, books are the guiding force behind PPLD and it’s an amazing experience to see all your favorite books and authors online for your family and friends to see. Who knows, you might even be a guiding force to help others "seek, engage, and transform.”

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Homeschooling Lab
Homeschooled students can use PPLD’s science equipment for parent-assigned experiments, with the help of our volunteer. A parent must accompany the homeschooled students to volunteer to lead a science lesson, but it’s not a requirement to use the Lab. Contact Callie (gsohns@ppld.org) for more information.

First and third Friday of the month 1 - 3 p.m. • East Library • Conference Room II

All Pikes Peak Reads 2011 (APPR) These Hands: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains by Nicholas Carr
The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
The Pioneer Photographer by William Henry Jackson and Howard Driggs
The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains by Nicholas Carr
Children will also be able to participate by reading The Landry News by Andrew Clement, and Sofia Makes a Movie by David Milgrim.

APPR will kick off at the What IF Festival of Innovation and Innovation on September 10, in downtown Colorado Springs.