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Microsoft Photo Story 3



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White Paper: Microsoft Photo Story



Where to find Photo Story:

To download Photo Story for free visit the following website and click the download now button. You may also need to download Microsoft Windows Media Player 7 or a later edition if your computer does not have it. If this is the case, the Microsoft download box will prompt and guide you through the process. The downloading process is relatively quick, less than 5 minutes. <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/PhotoStory/default.mspx>

What is Photo Story:

Photo Story is a program that allows you to not only organize pictures in a slide show but also add in text and sound. So for each slide, you can narrate it or add in music to compliment your slide. Photo Story is easy to navigate around allowing you to change the order of the slides and sound with a click of the mouse.

How Photo Story can be used to improve teaching:

Photo Story can be used in the classroom in a variety of ways. One is the teacher using it as a teaching aid. A Photo Story presentation could be made of anything from World War II to how to multiply fractions. Pictures and sound can be added to the presentation to help convey the message. Photo Story could also be used if the teacher was going to be out, then he/ she could go ahead and make a Photo Story presentation containing their voice explaining the concept. Then the substitute could play back the pre-made presentation. The same concept of making a Photo Story presentation could be used in centers as well. The teacher could have each center teaching something different by having students watch and listen to the presentation. This would allow the teacher to be a moderator observing and helping when needed.

Another great way to use Photo Story is with books. For students learning to or struggling with reading, the teacher could scan and upload pictures from the book as well as record themselves reading it. Then the student, on a computer, could read and follow along with the Photo Story presentation. This is a great alternative to buying books on CD or tape because it cost nothing and students will be listening to a familiar voice.

Photo Story is also easy enough to navigate around that students could use it to make their own presentations. Each slide of the Photo Story presentation could represent a different part of their assignment. An example would be to have students use Photo Story to make a presentation about a book they read. One slide could tell and show where the book took place. Another slide could have and show the main characters and so on. Photo Story is great because students can go ahead and record what they want to say. This allows them to stay within their time limit as well as remembering everything they needed to cover. The recording feature on Photo Story is also wonderful for students who are shy or who get upset talking in front of people. By having them record their information in private, those students will not get as anxious about presentations.

Students could also use Photo Story to create their own stories digitally. Students could

draw their pictures and scan them on the computer and then type their words on the slide. They could also use programs such as Paint to make their own images without having to scan pictures in. They could read their story to others by recording themselves reading it. This would encourage those students who do not like to write by allowing them to type instead.

The possibilities for Photo Story are endless for the fact that you can have pictures, words on the screen, and recordings all in one presentation. And the great thing is, you do not have to use all three features. You can mix them up and only use what would best fit your presentation.

The National Educational Technology Standards that are covered by Photo Story: Students will be able to complete the following NETS with Photo Story.

1. Creativity and Innovation

- a. apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
- b. create original works as a means of personal or group expression.

Photo Story allows students to express themselves through pictures, words, songs, and narrations. Students can then use all of these tools to show what they have learned or how they feel in a creative and safe environment. An example would be students creating a Photo Story about how a particular event in history made them feel such as September 11th.

2. Communication and Collaboration

- a. interact, collaborate, and publish with peers, experts, or others employing a variety of digital environments and media.
- b. communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats.
- d. contribute to project teams to produce original works or solve problems.

Photo Story can easily be a group project where students would work together to create one project. By having students work together to create one story, students will learn from each other as well as how to work together. After working and completing the Photo Story, students could then share it with other classmates, teachers and parents. Because Photo Story is saved as a Windows Media file, it can be shared through email or posting it on the web. A Photo Story presentation would be one of the varieties of media that students are exposed to.

3. Research and Information Fluency

- a. plan strategies to guide inquiry.
- b. locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media.
- c. evaluate and select information sources and digital tools based on the appropriateness to specific tasks.
- d. process data and report results.

Giving students a graded assignment such as working in groups to make a Photo Story about an insect, is an example of incorporating these standards. Students would need to make a plan as to what they want to know. Then they would need to find information on the internet, decide what information to use, and cite their sources. And lastly the students would need to group and organize their information in a logical way in a Photo Story to share what they have learned with others.

5. Digital Citizenship

- a. advocate and practice safe, legal, and responsible use of information and technology.
- b. exhibit a positive attitude toward using technology that supports collaboration, learning, and productivity.

To use Photo Story to cover the digital citizenship standard, teachers would first need to go over a few researching rules. These would be things like that not all information on the internet is true and that if we use information, pictures, or recordings we must give credit to that person. After going over some internet rules with students, let them show you what they can do. By having students work in groups with others that have commonalities with them, they will be excited to share what they like with others while working with people who feel the same way. Especially if this lesson is one of the first experiences they have with Photo Story, they will have positive feelings towards it and the whole process of working with others and researching.

6. Technology Operations and Concepts

- a. understand and use technology systems.
- b. select and use applications effectively and productively.
- c. troubleshoot systems and applications.

These standards can be covered with any of the above lesson ideas. In order for students or anybody to really understand a technology they must experience it. And in their presentations if students have added audio at an appropriate time or text, then they are demonstrating an understanding of how to use Photo Story effectively and productively. And lastly, unfortunately with any technology things do go wrong from time to time. Students will either be able to see or experience this, in turn learn what to do the next time that happens. Just by having students create a Photo Story, they will effectively use and understand a technology as well as figure things out for themselves.

Teachers will be able to complete following NETS with Photo Story.

1. Facilitate and Inspire Student Learning and Creativity

- a. promote, support, and model creative and innovative thinking and inventiveness
- c. promote student reflection using collaborative tools to reveal and clarify students' conceptual understanding and thinking, planning, and creative processes

In order to promote creativeness, before the students begin, share a Photo Story that you created such as a Photo Story about how a season makes you feel, using all kinds of different features on Photo Story. Then let them try but with a different topic like how holidays make you feel since you have already given students' ideas with yours. And to promote student reflection use Photo Story for an assignment such as students creating a Photo Story about how they feel towards a book by giving examples why in each slide. Photo Stories are a great tool to replace typical journal activities where students are asked to create or design and Photo Story can be edited and share more easily than traditional paper and pencil journals.

2. Design and Develop Digital-Age Learning Experiences and Assessments

- a. design or adapt relevant learning experiences that incorporate digital tools and resources to promote student learning and creativity

- b. develop technology-enriched learning environments that enable all students to pursue their individual curiosities and become active participants in setting their own educational goals, managing their own learning, and assessing their own progress
- c. customize and personalize learning activities to address students' diverse learning styles, working strategies, and abilities using digital tools and resources

Photo Story is also a tool to help teachers express their selves as well. By showing an incomplete Photo Story and having the students to create an ending for it, teachers will be encouraging students to think and predict. One way to customize activities for students is to make several Photo Stories based on different reading levels of book. Then have students listen and follow along to the reading level that matches their ability. Not only would this help students who were struggling, but also students reading at a much higher level than others. Photo Story presentations could be created so that no student is struggling or bored with their book, but engaged and learning at their own pace making it seem as if multiple teachers were in the room teaching at the same time. This might also cause students to enjoy reading more.

3. Model Digital-Age Work and Learning

- c. communicate relevant information and ideas effectively to students, parents, and peers using a variety of digital-age media and formats

Photo Story is a tool to create presentations that can relay a message or idea. By creating a Photo Story for your students to watch during a lesson containing relevant information, will not only allow the teacher to share outside sources with the class but also aid in their visual learning. Teachers can also use Photo Story to communicate with parents such as having a presentation playing during open house with important reminders. A Photo Story could even be created to share with other teachers to watch during meetings to keep everyone on schedule or to show a concept. In today's society digital media like Photo Story is being used by people to communicate daily to the audience they are trying to reach.

4. Promote and Model Digital Citizenship and Responsibility

- a. advocate, model, and teach safe, legal, and ethical use of digital information and technology, including respect for copyright, intellectual property, and the appropriate documentation of sources
- b. address the diverse needs of all learners by using learner-centered strategies and providing equitable access to appropriate digital tools and resources
- c. promote and model digital etiquette and responsible social interactions related to the use of technology and information

By going over such things as copyright and plagiarism, ethical use will be addressed like a previous lesson suggested for students. Students will also need to be reminded that there are certain rules when it comes to using information in a Photo Story such as giving credit to where you found your information from. And when using Photo Story in your class, remember that if there is not enough computers for all of your students or groups, set an order for when they go as well as a time limit. This will ensure that everyone is being treated fairly. A Photo Story based lesson would also be a wonderful time to remind students to whisper and to use headphones as to not to interrupt others.

Things to know about Photo Story before using it in the classroom:

Photo Story is a program that does run on a computer and if you want to use it for group

or individual learning, then headphones are needed as to not bother others. Also while making a Photo Story if you would like to add in narrations, you will need a microphone. Students would also benefit in having a flash drive available to them so that they can search for their information, images, and sounds before creating a Photo Story. Also another thing to know is that when you are through and saving it, Photo Story will create it into a file that will be playable on other computers. And like with anything you are trying to load on your computer, the larger the file the more time it will take to load, so if you are planning to teach with it, go ahead and load it.

How to use Photo Story:

Photo Story has 5 screens, the open screen, the image screen, the text screen, the sound screen, and the save screen.

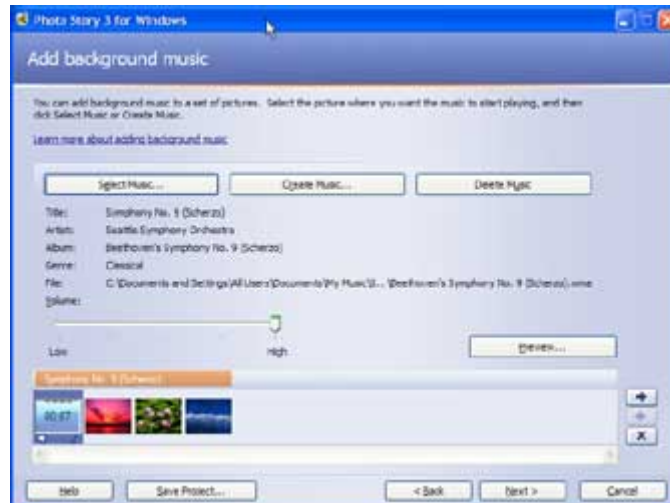
There are also buttons (back and next) to help you move from one screen to the next.

The steps to creating a Photo Story are not difficult and everything is clearly labeled.

1. Open a project either new or one you have previously been working on.
2. Import images from your file and sort them in the order you would like by dragging them. Save your work and click next.



3. On the right of the screen is a textbox. Click on the slide you would like to type on and type in the textbox.
4. Do this for all slides, save, and click next.
5. On the sound slide you may either record something in which case you need a microphone or import sound.



6. To record click the red circle and when you are through click the square. Make sure you have clicked on the slide you want sound on first.
7. To import sound, click on the slide you want the sound on, and then click import.
8. And lastly, click next and save your file. This is the process that will turn your slide show into a movie.

The positives to using Photo Story:

- Photo Story has built in guides to help you navigate around the program
- Photo Story is made by Microsoft and uses many of the same icons as the word processors you may be already familiar with.
- To get Photo Story all you have to do is download it. No driving to a store and it is free.
- Photo Story combines words, pictures, and sound into one program allowing you to make a presentation relatively quickly.
- After creating a project, you can save it to a flash drive and watch it on any computer that has Windows Movie Maker.

The negatives to using Photo Story:

- If you want to use your own pictures and not ones found off the internet in a Photo Story project, you need to scan or upload them in.
- Photo Story projects can be saved during creating them and uploaded on another computer. They must be finalized first before being viewed other places.
- If using Photo Story for a class assignment, all students will need access to a computer that has Photo Story on it.
- If using Photo Story for an internet research project, students would first need to know how to find information and other basic computer skills such as typing and using the internet.

Overall:

Photo Story is a very helpful program that with little training, students and teachers can

create presentations about anything using a variety of different types of media. Photo Story is also easily accessible as well as free and downloading takes less than 5 minutes. The possible presentations that can be created on Microsoft Photo Story are only limited by the person creating it.

Other Resources Available about Photo Story:

This is a link to the Microsoft Photo Story 3 help page. While using Photo Story, you need any assistance or would like to know more like saving your project to a DVD, check out the website. You can also post your own questions.

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photostory/faq.msp>

Below is a web page designed by a teacher that has a video tutorial would be great to show to students before having them use Photo Story.

<http://webtools4teaching.wikispaces.com/Photo+Story>

The following is a link to a website that another teacher wrote about Photo Story and how she uses it in her classroom. There are also posting from other teachers sharing their experiences teaching with Photo Story.

<http://teachingtomorrow.wordpress.com/2008/06/12/photostory/>

This is a presentation on the internet, containing pros and cons to using Photo Story as well ideas from other teachers on how they use it in their classroom.

<http://www.dcet.k12.de.us/vault/vault2008/OverviewDigitalStorytelling.pdf>

Resources to use in a Photo Story:

Music and other Audio

- <http://www.garageband.com>
- <http://www.freeplaymusic.com>
- <http://ccmixter.org/>
- <http://www.findsounds.com/>
- <http://www.freeaudioclips.com/>
- <http://www.webplaces.com/html/sounds.htm>
- <http://www.soundamerica.com/>
- <http://music.download.com/>