



MAINE MUSEUM OF
INNOVATION
LEARNING +
LABOR

Picturing Your World

Teacher's Guide and Worksheets



Child Labor Today

Grades 9-12

Time: 1-2 weeks

Learning Objectives:

Students will:

- be able to use photography to tell a personal story or convey a theme.
- reflect on their daily experiences and identify moments of significance or routine.
- analyze how visual choices (e.g., angle, lighting, composition) affect the narrative of an image.
- demonstrate basic photography skills, including framing, focus, and lighting.
- organize a sequence of images to communicate a clear timeline or story arc.

Materials Needed

1. Access to internet
2. Computer/laptop/tablet
3. Camera (phone camera or other)

Pre-reading/Preparation

It is recommended that students be familiar with the Child Labor section of our website. Reviewing this material can be done together as a class, or assigned for homework prior to the lesson below.

Set Up

There is minimal set up for this project. Students should have access to computers/laptop/tablet with internet access for the class period(s) and a camera. Phone camera's are recommended for their ease but more advanced students may use a camera of their choice.

Introduction

Much of history is told through the eyes of adults. In the Child Labor section of Maine MILL's website, we share several photographs by Lewis Hine who, as an adult, captured children going to or leaving from work. These photographs enabled him to document history as he saw it, as an adult. What makes Lewis Hine a little different from most adult historians was his ability to relate to child workers. Visit the Library of Congress website and you will find [Lewis Hine's work for the National Child Labor Committee](#). Look at them for what they are: primary source materials that allow you to see first hand, the children working in the various conditions in the 1800s.

Instruction, Teacher Modeling, Guided Practice

1. Together as a class review the images found in the Lewis Hine Collection for the National Child Labor Committee.
2. Ask students to discuss:
 - What do you think these children are thinking or feeling?
 - What can you infer about their lives from the pictures?
 - What do you imagine they might be dreaming about?
 - How can photographs help us understand someone's life? What are the limitations?
3. Discuss with students that for this assignment they will be documenting a day in their life. Students should consider what they wish to share and what they wish/want others to know about them.
4. Students may work independently or with a partner to shoot these photographs – subject/photographer and then rotate.
5. The pictures should represent what a student does from morning until night.
6. Distribute the planning sheet below. Students should plan their photos and have them approved by teachers in advance.
7. Students will then present their work in a photo grid collage. There are a number of free apps that allow students to create these collages.
8. Finished assignments can be turned in via Google Classroom to the teacher or in a printed hard copy. Teachers may choose to display finished work in the classroom.

Name:

Picturing Your World

For this assignment, you're going to take photos of a typical day in the life of a student. You're going to be displaying a minimum of NINE pictures total. You may work in pairs to shoot these, subject/photographer and then rotate or work by yourself and get creative as to how to take photos of yourself along the way. The pictures should represent what a student does from morning until night. Consider using different angles and filters. How can these help tell your story? Use the planning sheet below to help you plan your project. Your planning sheet must be approved by your teacher before beginning your project. You're going to be submitting your final artwork in a GRID COLLAGE. Different free apps will do this for you. It is your choice which app to use but explore different options and choose which works best for you. All photographs must include a caption, describing the subject.

Photo	Time	Event	Location	Caption
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				