



4-H 365.12



To take this self-determined project, you need access to a digital or film-based camera, a computer, and digital image software.

Digital Imaging

by Bob Horton, 4-H Extension Specialist

Understanding digital imaging is as simple as understanding the principles **shoot, enhance, and share**. Whether you shoot digitally or on film, the basic techniques and skills of creating a high-quality image remain the same. All you need is a willingness to try and a lot of practice.

Shoot

If you have some experience taking photographs, use this idea starter as a companion to your existing 4-H photography project. Take photographs that give you “plenty of potential” for digital processing, especially when attempting to communicate a particular idea, feeling, or mood.

Enhance

Once in digital form, images can be loaded into a computer, where image-processing software can perform many functions such as changing brightness,

contrast, or color. This allows you to retouch them, or manipulate the content, by swapping elements around, for example.

Share

Images need to be stored, perhaps on CD, so that they can be easily retrieved. Finally, you will want to output your images as prints or as part of a web page or multimedia production.

Use this idea starter as your next step toward creating your own digital photography project. Follow the planning steps on the next page along with the sample activities for conducting a successful

Plan Your Project

Use this idea starter AND publication 4-H 365 *Self-Determined Project Guide* as the starting place for your 4-H self-determined project. The *Self-Determined Project Guide* is available from your county OSU Extension office or on the web at www.ohio4h.org/selfdetermined. You may choose to do a little or a lot depending on your level of interest. Be sure to register your project with your county OSU Extension office.

self-determined project. Be sure to visit the recommended web pages for additional information on digital photography or go to your library for additional resources. You also need to decide how best to display your accomplishments during project review and competition.

Related Resources

Adobe Digital Kids Club
www.adobe.com/education/digkids/main.html

Digital Photography,
Surfing the Net
www.surfnetkids.com/digitalphoto.htm

4-H Digital Photography Project
www.aces.nmsu.edu/4h/photography

Areas of Interest and Things to Do

Every self-determined project can be broken down into areas of interest. These are the specific things members want to address during their project adventure. Using 4-H 365 *Self-Determined Project Record*, explore all three (3) interest areas with at least three (3) activities per area to explore. Take your ideas from the list below or make up your own.

Enhancing Your Photos

Using your digital image software ...

- Adjust the brightness and contrast of a photograph.
- Sharpen the image of an existing photograph.
- Manipulate the depth of field of a digital image.

Retouching Your Photos

Using your digital image software ...

- Retouch an old photograph.
- Correct dust and scratches on a photograph.
- Enhance or correct the eyes of a subject in a photograph.
- Restore an old photograph.

Adding Color or Monochrome

Using your digital image software ...

- Use color as a special effect.
- Try working with sepia toning.
- Try working with split toning.

Creating Special Effects

Using your digital image software ...

- Use a digital mask and filter.
- Retouch a photograph for special effects.
- Use a digital image to create an atmosphere or feeling.
- Use a series of digital images to create a panorama.
- Use a series of digital images to create a montage.

Sharing Images

Using your computer and printer ...

- Combine text and image in your message.
- Determine the best way to store and catalog your images.
- Post your images to the web.
- E-mail an image to a friend or publisher.

www.ohio4h.org/selfdetermined



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Keith L. Smith, Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, Ohio State University Extension

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