



Photography Learning Station

Photography is used on a golf course in various ways, primarily to capture the beauty of the environment, document events, and promote the course itself. It can be used to highlight the work of the golf course superintendent and his/her team by emphasizing the beauty of the terrain, highlighting environmental conservation efforts and players enjoying the golf course. Photography is visual storytelling.

In this Learning Station the students will be asked to tap into their creativity and collaboration skills by capturing three to four images that will help tell a story of the golf course and their First Green field trip. They will learn simple photography tips to help them along the way, but primarily the photos they take will be up to them and their fellow students. GCSAA may utilize the pictures shared from this learning station as an opportunity to showcase student's artwork and the host golf course on its webpage and social media channels.

Student Learning Objectives

- By the end of this lesson, students will understand and apply the rule of thirds in photography to create more balanced and visually appealing compositions.
- Identify aesthetically pleasing areas of the golf course to capture the beauty of the course.
- Understand the significance of photography and the story it can be used to tell.

Materials Needed

- Students will need digital cameras or smartphones with cameras
- Example photos (printed or digital)
- Whiteboard and markers
- Table to set up the learning station and for students to gather around.

1. Introduction to the Rule of Thirds (5 minutes)

- **What is the Rule of Thirds?**

- Introduce the rule of thirds as a basic principle of composition in photography.
- Explain that the rule divides an image into nine equal parts by drawing two equally spaced horizontal lines and two equally spaced vertical lines.
- Emphasize that important elements should be placed along these lines or at their intersections, rather than centered.

- **Why Use the Rule of Thirds?**

- Helps to create balance and harmony in a photo.
- Makes the image more dynamic, engaging, and natural.
- Avoids static or overly symmetrical compositions that can feel flat or uninteresting.

2. Demonstration (5 minutes)

- **Show Example Images:**

- Display a few images with good and bad compositions (before and after applying the rule of thirds).
- Ask the student to identify what is different in each photo. Ask the students to explain what they find interesting in each photo.

3. Hands-On Photography Activity (10 minutes)

- **Practice:**

- Ask students to take a series of photos using the rule of thirds.
- They can use their own cameras or smartphones.
- Encourage them to experiment with different subjects (landscapes, portraits, etc.), making sure to position key elements along the grid lines or intersections.

- **Volunteer Support:**

- Walk around, offering guidance and feedback as students capture their images.

Wrap Up

When the students are finished with the collection of photographs, have them pick their favorite photograph and have them explain the reasoning behind the picture. This could be done by students mingling with one person at a time and rotating between three individuals. When students return to school, they can develop a short video (TikTok, Reel) about the First Green Event and the pictures that were taken to highlight their visit to be used on your social media platforms. Other opportunities include getting the schools art department involved in creating different forms out of the photographs taken i.e. color painting, collage, etc. Each group will be tasked with submitting one photograph that they believe best represents the golf club to be used on the Course's Website/ social media or displayed in the clubhouse at the course.

For Teachers

National Core Art Standards

- **Creating**
 - Anchor Standard 2- Organize and Develop Artistic Ideas and Work
- **Connecting**
 - Anchor Standard 10- Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.