

Social Studies Ideas for Using the Digital Camera

1. Landmarks—Take pictures of landmarks around town. Have students use the pictures in making a presentation about your city. Use pictures from the Internet for any city/state/country that is being studied.
2. Government—Use pictures from the camera or the Internet to create a presentation about local or national government officials and their job descriptions.
3. Interview—Have students report on someone they admire. Include their picture in their report or presentation.
4. Emotions—Have students make faces that indicate various emotions. Use the pictures to make emotion flashcards, for creative writing, or to discuss nonverbal language.
5. Economics—Have students explore the school taking pictures of goods and services. Label the pictures and categorize them into the two groups.
6. Family Tree—Take digital pictures or use a scanner to digitize prints and use to create a family tree.
7. Photo Frame—Create a template with room for a picture in the center. Students add a picture (either scanned or from Internet) of a president, inventor, landmark, etc. and include facts about the picture on each of the four sides.
8. Timeline—Use scanned pictures or photos from the Internet and create a timeline of whatever period of history is being studied.
9. Postcards—Use Internet or scanned pictures to create a postcard that tells about the state being researched.
10. Quilt—Use scanned or Internet photos to create a quilt that explains the topic being researched.
11. Stamps—Use digital pictures to create a stamp that recognizes students' future contributions to society.
12. Symbols—After a discussion of national or state symbols, choose a well-known song, poem, or story and have students find a picture that they think symbolizes it.
13. Bill of Rights—After discussing the Bill of Rights, students should select an amendment and find/take a picture of something that might be very different if not for the freedom guaranteed in that amendment.
14. Time Capsule—Each student contributes a picture to a time capsule based on what he/she wants people in the future to know about or remember from the present. Include a written explanation as to what was chosen and why.
15. Career Choices—Have students use drawing tools to add details to pictures of themselves to depict the career of their choice.
16. Who Are You?—Take pictures of all the school helpers (janitors, secretaries, etc.) Include in a school book with their names and a description of their jobs.
17. Passport—Create a passport for each student as they study countries around the world.
18. President's Day—Use drawing tools to add a beard and stove top hat to picture of student. Students write about what they would do if they were president.
19. Map It—Have students draw a map of the room, school, or town using pictures to show their location.
20. Personal Crest—Create a template with a room for student's picture in center. In each area of the crest, students can write about different areas of their lives.
21. Who Am I?—Take photos of students dressed as historical figures. Students create PowerPoints with a clue on each slide to see if others can guess who they are.