

Cumulative Project: Elements of Design Slideshow

Teacher Guide: Grade 7

Overview



After completing the course on the Elements of Design, including videos, challenges, and check ins, students will complete this cumulative project to reflect on the Elements of Design and their artwork as a whole. Students will create a gallery show in a slideshow format of their best photographs. Students will then choose from two questions to reflect on their experience in the course, reflections can be presented through an oral presentation or essay format. The intent of this cumulative project is for it to be marked and go towards the students' visual art grade. Teachers are welcome to modify this project based on what works best for their class.

Curriculum Connections



This project addresses the fundamental concepts of the grade 7 Visual Arts Curriculum by asking students to demonstrate their understanding of all of the Elements of Design and reflect on their experience. Students will also use the critical analysis process to analyze, discuss, and interpret their own work. For a full breakdown of curriculum connections please visit Focus on Nature Online's [curriculum connection document](#).

Project Outline



1. Co-construct success criteria with students
 - Discuss what students have learned from the online lessons and how the elements of design can enhance an image.
 - Show students the example slideshow and have a discussion about what makes a good presentation and art gallery.

- As a group, develop expectations for students' slideshows. Examples may include:
 - Quality of photos: focused, good composition, applicable to the Elements of Design
 - Slideshow design: size of images on slides, layout of slides, background, text size and location
 - Structure of reflection answers: discussing if students will develop an oral presentation for the class or provide a written essay
 - Themes: students may choose to theme their gallery slideshows, focusing on the elements of design, environmental stewardship, etc. This is an opportunity for students to be creative.
 - Use this discussion to inform the development of a marking rubric (example provided)
- 2.** Each student creates their own gallery slideshow of their best photos with at least 2 photos for each slide (5 maximum)
 - Students can use Google Slides or another preferred program to create their slideshow
 - In-depth instructions for students provided below.
 - 3.** Students create an oral presentation or essay answering one of the reflective questions outlined in the student instructions. Students may choose to theme their gallery slideshow to pair with their reflective questions.
 - 4.** Students present their gallery slideshow to the class (optional)
 - 5.** Class discussion (optional)
 - Students discuss as a group what they have learned, and how they will apply this learning to future work
 - Potential discussion questions:
 - Did you see any common themes in the photos students in the class took? For example: did students take photos of similar subjects or use similar techniques?
 - After watching your classmates gallery slideshows do you have any ideas how art promotes environmental stewardship? What other art forms may aid in environmental awareness?
 - From watching other students' gallery slideshows, what do you notice first when you look at works of art?
 - What do you consider when you give yourself time to think before deciding whether you like a piece of artwork?

Reflection Questions



Once students have completed the gallery slideshow they can choose one of the below reflection questions. Reflection questions can be answered in an oral presentation or essay format. Additional prompting questions for each element of design can be provided to students.

- **Reflections questions one:**

- The Elements of Design provide a guiding framework for all art forms. How have these elements impacted your photography? Choose a few images from your gallery slideshow and explain how each element has changed your perspective and visual perception.

- **Reflection question two:**

- Nature provides photographers with an endless amount of subjects. Review your images and explain how they have altered your perception of the environment. How can you use your photography to promote environmental stewardship?

Additional prompting questions (optional):

- **Line:** What types of lines are present in your image(s)? Explain how these lines create impact in your photograph(s)?
- **Shape:** What shapes are present in your image(s) and how did you make the shapes stand out from the background?
- **Form:** What techniques did you use to capture the form in your images? Explain how you used these techniques to emphasize form.
- **Space:** What is the main subject of your photo(s), and how does the space complement or detract from the subject?
- **Texture:** What adjectives describe the textures in your images?
- **Tone:** Does your photo have a large or small tonal range? Explain why you think so using specific examples.
- **Colour:** Describe the colours in your photo using the 3 qualities of colour (hue, brightness, and saturation).

Additional Resources



- Student instructions (separate document)
- Example slideshow (separate document)
- Sample rubric (below)

Sample Rubric



Adjust rubric after co-constructing success criteria with students

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Knowledge and Understanding				
Identifies Elements of Design in photographs	Demonstrates limited understanding of the Elements of Design	Demonstrates some understanding of the Elements of Design	Demonstrates considerable understanding of the Elements of Design	Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the Elements of Design
Identifies photography techniques used in composing and taking their photographs	Difficulty identifying photography techniques used	Some success identifying photography techniques used	Considerable success identifying photography techniques used	A high degree of effectiveness in identifying photography techniques used
Communication/Reflection				
Expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of photography concepts in in an oral presentation of essay format	Expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of the Elements of Design and photography concepts in in an oral presentation of essay format with limited effectiveness	Expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of the Elements of Design and photography concepts in in an oral presentation of essay format with some effectiveness	Clearly expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of the Elements of Design and photography concepts in an oral presentation of essay format in the reflection questions	Expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of the Elements of Design and photography concepts in an oral presentation of essay format with a high degree of effectiveness
Application				
Applies knowledge and skills to take their photographs	The photographs lack consideration of incorporating the Elements of Design and photography techniques	The photographs somewhat demonstrate thought taken to incorporate the Elements of Design and photography techniques	The photographs clearly demonstrate thought taken to incorporate the Elements of Design and photography techniques	The photographs expertly demonstrate thought taken to incorporate the Elements of Design and photography techniques