E201 – Learning to See, Seeing to Learn: Visual Literacy in Education

Mary Ann Bell, Professor of Library Science, Sam Houston State University
Diane Cordell, Consultant and Writer, CyberSmart Education Company
dmcordell@gmail.com

Internet Librarian 2014
Tuesday 10-28-2014
10:30 AM – 11:15 AM

“Today’s teachers are called upon to address visual literacy and good digital citizenship as part of state and national standards. Students are already communicating with images by way of social networking tools such as Instagram and Snapchat. This presentation addresses how to help students understand, appreciate, create, and share visuals in a safe and appropriate manner. Attendees leave with specific sites and ideas to use with their students at all levels.”

Mary Ann’s SlideShare
http://www.slideshare.net/drmaryannbell/seeing-to-learnto-seeinternetschools-west

Mary Ann’s Resource Wiki

Diane’s SlideShare
http://www.slideshare.net/diane/learning-to-see-seeing-to-learn

Diane’s Resources:

Reading Images
As with any new skill, guided practice helps students build competency:

1. Start with Picture Walks, “a shared activity between an adult reader and child or group of children before reading an unfamiliar story. In its simplest terms, it is previewing the pictures in a storybook to familiarize the child with the story prior to introducing the text.” prediction, critical analysis of both story & design elements; good early reading strategy for parents and ESL students as well]
   ● Taking a Picture Walk
   http://www.handsandvoices.org/articles/education/ed/V11-2_picturewalk.htm
   ● What is a “Picture Walk”? http://www.scarsdaleschools.k12.ny.us/Page/5016
2. Extend the concept to **visual artifacts** [reading photographs; composition, context, setting, emotion, viewers’ background knowledge]
   - Basic Strategies in Reading Photographs [http://nuovo.com/southern-images/analyses.html](http://nuovo.com/southern-images/analyses.html)
   - A History of the World in 100 Objects, the British Museum [http://www.bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld/)

3. Challenge students with **visual writing prompts**. An extension activity would be to have students create their own story starter photos to share with classmates.
   - Literacy Shed (visual prompts, including videos, arranged by genre) [http://www.literacyshed.com/](http://www.literacyshed.com/)
   - Visual writing prompts (arranged by subject and type of writing) [https://visualwritingprompts.wordpress.com/](https://visualwritingprompts.wordpress.com/)

**Photography in the Makerspace** - photos as both the product and as a curation tool

1. Student photography projects:
● My favorite things (objects and their stories)
  http://www.wearejuxt.com/2013/10/28/my-favorite-things/
● Book shelves: you and your shelf (Tumblr) http://bookshelves.tumblr.com/
● Grandmas and their best dishes
  http://www.slate.com/blogs/behold/2013/05/08/gabriele_galimberti_delicatessen_with_love_looks_at_grandmothers_around.html *variations could be: what I eat for lunch; my favorite meal; our Thanksgiving dinner; etc.
● Using Instagram with Students
  http://www.internetatschools.com/Articles/Column/Belltones/BELLTONES-Picture-This!-Using-Instagram-With-Students-91949.aspx

2. Photos and curation: encourage students to tag and archive themed photos.
● Flickr (albums can also be printed as a photobook) www.flickr.com
● 365 Project (take & post one photo a day, every day; a visual journal of your life)
  http://content.photojojo.com/tutorials/project-365-take-a-photo-a-day/
● Twitter (use hashtags to group and retrieve photos on a class or library account)
  www.twitter.com
● Facebook albums www.facebook.com
● Instagram (hashtag public photos, then create photobooks) http://www.instalbs.me/
● Historypin (share photos or add comments to archived images) http://www.historypin.com/
● Using exhibits as assessment - could work with photos as well as other types of artifacts
  http://www.edutopia.org/practice/using-exhibits-assessment
● Reminder: you can now use class codes to have students join Wikispaces (which they can use to curate images)

**Ethical Sharing and Digital Footprint**

Students need to become good digital citizens and mindful social networking users.

1. Building a positive footprint.
● Your digital footprint (information for students)
  http://www.granvillecsd.org/webpages/lgrandjean/using_the_internet.cfm?subpage=635376
● Discover what your digital footprint says about you (all ages, including adults)
● Be a good digital citizen: tips for parents and teens
  https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/be-a-good-digital-citizen-tips-for-teens-and-parents
• Digital Literacy & Citizenship Classroom Curriculum (free, registration required) - K-12
  iBooks, printable curriculum, and video
  https://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators/curriculum
• Managing your digital footprint
  https://sites.google.com/site/digicitizenshipadventures/managing-your-digital-footprint
• Helping students create positive digital footprints

2. Plagiarism, copyright, fair use: it isn’t just about copying & pasting text. ALL original works, including photographs, paintings, sculpture, even dances, are protected and must be properly credited, when used.
  • Copyright basics http://www.copyrightkids.org/cbasicsframes.htm
  • Teaching copyright (curriculum and lesson plans) http://www.teachingcopyright.org/
  • Navigating the Maze: Plagiarism, Copyright, and Fair Use http://navigatemaze.wikispaces.com/
  • Copyright and fair use for educators (videos) http://www.edutopia.org/blog/film-festival-copyright-fair-use
  • Cite a digital image in MLA (EasyBib) http://www.easybib.com/mla-format/digital-image-citation
  • Cite a photo in MLA (EasyBib) http://content.easybib.com/citation-guides/mla-format/how-to-cite-a-photo-digital-image-mla/#.VBTgt0iLEoY
  • Create your MLA digital-image citation (Son of Citation Machine) http://www.citationmachine.net/mla/cite-a-digital-image
  • Flickr cc attribution helper http://cogdog.github.io/flickr-cc-helper/

3. Copyright friendly images
  • Pics4Learning http://pics.tech4learning.com/
  • A copyright friendly toolkit (Joyce Valenza) https://www.smore.com/f677-a-copyright-friendly-toolkit
  • R.I.P. - respect for intellectual property (Kathy Schrock) http://www.schrockguide.net/intellectual-property.html

4. Creative Commons licensing allows others to use original works within specified guidelines. Encourage students to not only USE CC images but also to give their photos CC licensing to help build their positive digital footprint.
  • CC search page http://search.creativecommons.org/
  • Spectrum of Rights Comic1: a Creative Commons Introduction http://wwwSlideshare.net/diane/spectrum-of-rights-comic-1
• Creative Commons in K-12 education: using and sharing students’ work safely
  http://www.edutopia.org/creative-commons-k-12-education
• This is how students can generate Creative Commons licenses for their digital productions
  http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2013/09/this-is-how-students-can-generate.html
• Note: Flickr allows users to assign CC licenses when uploading photos; it is also possible to
  search for CC images on the Flickr site https://www.flickr.com/creativecommons/

“It is not what we look at that matters, it’s what we see.”
  -Henry David Thoreau