

Illustrate a Living History

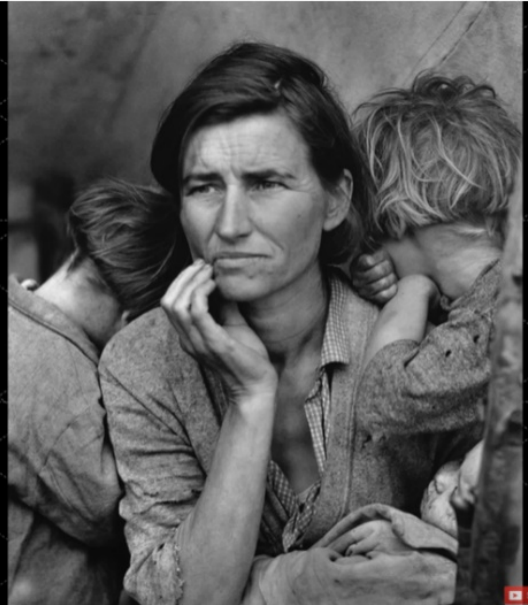
Photographs capture a moment in time and each one tells a story. Scan the QR code or use the link to watch the video to discover the power of a photograph.



This photo of 'Migrant Mother' Florence Owens in California in 1936 is just one of thousands of starving families.

After this photograph was published, the federal government sent 20,000 pounds of food to the camp.

© Dorothea Lange



You just saw how photographs can capture different moments: iconic, emotional, heartbreaking, triumphant. How many of those photos have you seen before? What emotions did you feel as you viewed the videos?

With today's media, smart phones, and technology at our fingertips, taking photographs is easier than ever. We use photographs to send updates as to what we are doing, who we are with, and what we believe. How do we know that what we are sending is being interpreted the way we intend? How do we know that we are interpreting what we see the way the photographer intended?



Check out envisionexperience.com/Inauguration for more resources

Famous Historical Photographs



Iwo Jima (1945)



President Nixon & Elvis



March on Washington (1963)

Photographs from: Fried, Ellen. (2004). From Pearl Harbor to Elvis: Images That Endure. *National Archives Prologue Magazine*, 36(4).
<https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2004/winter/top-images.html>



Think about the photos above. Does a photograph always send a message? How do you determine the message that a photo sends?



Identify the intention of a photograph and analyze how a picture can both capture a moment in time and convey a message.

Activity 1 – Photos Through Time

- Choose one photo from the Famous Historical Photographs section above.
- Carefully analyze the image and write down what message the photo is sending.
- Share your ideas about the image with a member of your household and compare the perspectives.
- Did you hear new perspectives about the photographs that you had not previously generated?

Activity 2 – 2020 Living History

- Analyze the images below and identify these items:
 - What is this photograph about?
 - Where was the photograph taken?
 - What message does the photograph communicate?
- Choose one or more of the photos and write your own caption that captures its message.



André Chung/Bloomberg



Noah Berger/Associated Press



Rosem Morton/The New York Times



Jacob King/The New York Times



Oliver Contreras/Pool/Abaca Press/Reuters



Stefani Reynolds/Bloomberg/Getty Images

Activity 3 – Your Living History

- Choose a photograph from your phone's camera roll that represents how you or your community are currently living history.
- Create a caption that conveys what you would intend others to get from your image if the photograph was viewed 20 years later.
- How hard was this activity? Were you surprised by the photos you had captured? Does this change your perspective on the history occurring around you?

Optional Activity

Using the theme #LivingHistory, consider how this theme may reflect subject areas outside of history and government. Your task is to find photos related to your favorite subject area and consider the questions below. If you are interested in science, find photos that reflect on virology, scientific reactions, the climate, or nature. If English is your favorite subject, find pictures that represent a novel, poem, or class reading.

Social Studies

- What is the power of a historical site?
- How can monuments/memorials/museums/etc. be considered from multiple points of view?
- What can we learn from historical events? What connections can we make to the present day?
- What historical events have shaped your lifetime?

Science

- What different perspectives may impact environmental concerns?
- How does a scientist's journal reflect a specific perspective?
- How can scientific processes model non-scientific images?
- What innovations and/or inventions have shaped your lifetime?

Language Arts

- Are multiple perspectives represented by different characters in a narrative?
- How is the point of view of a fictional character affected by the time they inhabit?
- What essential events in a story/play/movie/poem/etc. move the narrative forward?

Music

- How do composers create emotional responses through music?
- In what ways do song lyrics create images in our minds?
- What must be considered when pairing music with films and shows?
- How can music be representative of a particular perspective?

Visual Arts

- What inspires you?
- What is your interpretation of beauty?
- How does an artist's background influence their work?
- In what ways do portraits reflect the perspective of the subject?