

Mark Vance  
Digital Photography Integration

**Description:**

I have always had an interest in photography. I started out with taking black and white photos and developing and creating my own prints in the dark room. As an art teacher I have kept this passion and try to pass along the enjoyment of photography to my students and fellow art teachers. I started a digital photography class for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students when they go to their camp. In order to make this happen I had to write a grant to purchase the needed equipment.

**Impact:**

The impact this has had on my students and me has been amazing. The initial idea was to just have the students take nature photos with disposable cameras but instead I wrote a grant to purchase the needed equipment. This has allowed me to use technology with digital cameras and to help the students edit and adjust their images using software. I have had students find a passion for taking photos. One is currently studying fine arts with a focus in digital photography. This year I had a student send me a Google slide show of photos she took on a camera she got for Christmas because of the class I taught at camp. I have also been able to share my experiences with other art teachers in my district and have developed a working relationship with the high school photography teacher.

**Intent:**

The intent is to expand the program to incorporate greenbook classes for the other art teachers to learn from what I do. I would like to create an online class so that the other elementary schools that go to camp could have their students complete my nature photography class.