IMAGING PARTNERSHIP
EDUCATION
Exploring Education Through Imaging

Themed Week Workshop Overviews

Imaging Partnership is pleased to offer fun and exciting workshops to be held within themed weeks in your school. There are a choice of activities that incorporate your chosen themed week into visual arts such as photography, filmmaking and animation. Each activity covers some basic theory in the chosen area of visual arts, but the main emphasis is on practical, hands-on learning focusing on the theme of the week.

Students will be encouraged to enhance their creativity, problem solving and working as a team while discussing important issues. Students will have memorable experiences that include interesting cross-curricular projects. Some of the activities below can be altered or tailored to suit a different subject and themed week in your school.

Examples of some themed weeks and activities:

Expressive Arts Week

- Using visual arts such as photography and filmmaking to capture and document a chosen area of expressive arts. The chosen area can be any form of expressive arts, such as dance, drama or creative writing. An appropriate form of recording will need to be selected for each chosen art form. Students will be helped with their camera techniques, composition, use of lighting and audio to produce a high quality series of photos or a video. Some basic tips and advice will be given on the technical and creative sides of visual arts to ensure the students produce a product at the highest of their abilities.

Design and Technology Week

- Students are taught some basic and advanced photography techniques for documenting the progress of the design and creation of a product. From photographing anything that is their inspiration, to a prototype, the creation and product testing. These photos can be put together in a time-line or collage that demonstrates the processes and progression of the products development.

Science Week

- The use of video and filmmaking is vital to science as it can document a discovery or experiment in a way that allows it to be seen by many with great detail and explanation. Students would be asked to make a short factual video about an experiment or scientific finding/discovery that they have been previously working on. The video can include, interviews, voiceovers, graphics, cut-away shots and include many other video techniques to capture the main action of the film, i.e. an experiment. An advance on this would be for students to edit their videos, however practitioners can also do this for the students and return the final videos to the school.

Outdoors Week

- Encouraging students to be more visually aware of their natural surroundings and take notice of small areas within nature that are usually overlooked in day-to-day life (i.e. under a leaf). Encouraging students to take part in a nature walk and document any visually interesting or unusual items/areas found along the way with the use of photography. Students will be shown some simple tips and techniques for taking photos with interesting use of composition, colour, focus and lighting. The photos taken could also be compiled into a collage to summarise the walk in one final image.

Maths Week

- The aim is to use photography to demonstrate maths in unique ways, such as students representing numbers and sums using objects. An example of this is using an image of 3 acorns and 2 stones equaling a pile of 5 acorns and stones, using sticks to make the + and = signs. Another example is getting the students to create numbers using the shapes of their bodies, i.e. standing up straight is a 1. The difficulty of the sums involved in the activities can be adjusted to suit the abilities and average ages of the class. The aims of the activity are to challenge the student's creativity, camera skills and use of numbers within maths.

Book week

- Inspiration can be taken from a book studied in school or the student's favorite book to create a visual representations. Students will be asked to take photos of objects, colours or patterns that they associate with the book and record a reading of their chosen section, paragraph or entire book to support the visuals. The photos can be compiled into a power point/slide show and presented with the reading to the class.

Heritage Week

- Students are asked to take a photo representing a specific era or moment in time, as if they have stepped into a time machine. The correct use of props, costume, set and camera techniques will need to be carefully considered to ensure a realistic final image is created. Some tips and techniques for taking an effective photo will be shared with the students to ensure they take a high quality and creative photo. Students can present their final images to the class or to family and friends and explain their composition decisions and what the photo is to represent.

Africa Week

- Students are to use the facts learnt about Africa throughout the week to create a film about an African tradition, such as African drumming or traditional dance. The aim is to make a short documentary style video that informs audiences of the chosen tradition. Students will be taught some simple filmmaking techniques and will have to choose the techniques suitable to their individual videos.

Active Week

- Sports photography is an important discipline in visual arts, its techniques are unique to motion and are an advanced development on the basics of photography. Capturing movement in a still image is a difficult task that requires knowledge of depth, blurring, lighting and shutter-speed. Students can use the techniques taught to them by capturing activities that include movement from around the school and include techniques such as panning, stopping a moment in time and radial blur's. This activity is ideal for students who have an existing knowledge of photography and want to further their knowledge or for students who have an interest in sports and movement.

Music Week

- Visual arts is very important in the world of music, a music video makes a song more memorable to its audience and expresses the message or meaning of a song within a different media. Students will be asked to use photography and filmmaking to create some visuals that support a chosen piece of music. They will be encouraged to think about the cinematography and what each photo or scene will mean to its audience. Using lighting, composition, symbolism and depth to create interesting and creative media appropriate to the chosen song.

Community Week

- Understanding how the media can help your local community. Either by making an awareness poster or a factual video about an issue. The aim is to use visual arts to gather people to work together to either tackle an issue or increase community spirit. Students will be asked to come-up with a topic that they believe needs their attention and to create a video or image that aims to have a positive impact on the community. They will need to design, plan and create the final product. They will learn some techniques and tips for using a camera, including composition, lighting and audio (if making a video). They will be asked to work in small groups to encourage teamwork and the ability to make group decisions.

Eco Week

- Awareness posters are very important in spreading a message about an issue or event as they can be placed in a variety of locations. Students will be asked to design an awareness poster about an environmental issue of their choice. This encourages them to be creative and plan what they want to be in the image and why. They then will be taught basic photography techniques that allow them to capture the designed image in a professional way and create their own posters.

International Week

- Students are encouraged to investigate a chosen country and culture and re-create a photographic image that represents it in a clear way. Students would need to use their creativity to gather costumes, props and a set (i.e. the school field) to design their photo. They would also need to plan the photo using storyboards for visuasl and written description. Detailed research into the chosen topic will be required and some basic composition, lighting and framing within photography will need to be taken on board. Students can present their final photos to the class and explain the reasons for each prop, composition decision etc to make sure each decision was well thought through.

Spirituality and Faith Week

- Understanding the way different people express their faith in spiritual events. Students are asked to create a short stop-motion animation that explains a chosen religious event. The final video should be informative and well researched to explain the event to its audience. Students can use their own drawings and paper cut-outs to explain the event.

Space Week

- Students will be asked to create simple informative stop-motion animations that explain a chosen area or topic about space. They can be created using paper cut-outs, modeling clay or objects. Students will be taught how to create a simple stop-motion animation and assisted through the making process. The final animations should be informative and teach its audience, meaning students will need to know their topic well and may need to do more research.

Media Week

- Students will learn how to plan, direct and film their own news television programmes. The news is a great example of the power the media has on its audience and is a simple, well-known format that is easy to re-create. Students will need to work in teams to create their own newsroom and scripts. Each student will have their own role within the group but overall will need to work well as a team to create a professional and polished show.