

STUDY QUESTIONS

TO “OUTSIDE SHOTS”

Study and learn facts and ideas based on this Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, November–December 2014, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine.

Minnesota Conservation Volunteer magazine is your guide to wild things. Every other month, six times a year, the magazine arrives in your school library. Each one has a story for Young Naturalists like you. **Are you curious about wild things?** Young Naturalists tells true stories that can answer all kinds of questions such as these—

Have you ever heard of a purple wartyback? How about a pink heelsplitter, pimple-back, or monkeyface? All are Minnesota freshwater mussels. Read Young Naturalists stories to learn which species (kinds) of critters live in Minnesota—frogs, salamanders, snakes, wild cats, wild dogs, weasels, mice, and rabbits.

Want to **peek inside the den of a red fox** and see how the kits grow up? Are you a rock hound searching for agates? Have you ever wondered what’s alive under snow? How do animals see? Why is a bluebird blue? How do birds fly?

Would you like to hear the true story of **giants of the ice age**? Young Naturalists also tells you about the underground universe. You can read the story of a tiny owl that went to a hospital with an injured wing. Find out about a boy who worked in a logging camp. Read the story of Ojibwe children today hunting and gathering like their ancestors did.

Learn how to get started **camping, snowshoeing, ice fishing, or canoeing**.

Find these stories and more online at www.mndnr.gov/young_naturalists.

Your knowledge of wild things helps you explore and enjoy the outdoors. Have fun!

“OUTSIDE SHOTS” STUDY QUESTIONS

Multidisciplinary classroom activities based on the Young Naturalists nonfiction story in *Minnesota Conservation Volunteer*, November–December 2014, www.mndnr.gov/mcvmagazine

YOUNG NATURALISTS

Do you like going outdoors and taking photos of wild things? Here are some ideas and tips to help you snap your best shots.

Outside

Story and photography
By Danijalan Nelson

FOR THE PAST 25 YEARS, I have been getting paid to take pictures of rocks, trees, lakes, wildflowers, dragonflies, snakes, and nearly anything having to do with the outdoors. But I enjoyed taking photographs long before I became a professional photographer. Tucked in a book in my office is the first photograph I ever took. I used a Kodak Instamatic film camera, a birthday gift when I was 10. The photo is mostly green and has a brown blob in the middle. I think the blob was a toad or a frog hopping across the lawn, but I can't be sure because the picture is out of focus.

Today any photographer can take crisp photos using an inexpensive digital camera. Some cameras are small enough to fit in your pocket. Some are bundled in cellphones. These cameras are simple to use. But a camera can't tell you what to photograph, what to include in your picture, or how to make the picture interesting. To make a good photograph, you'll need to look closely and add a dab of concentration and a sprinkling of creativity. Here are a few tips to help you see how to have fun and get photos you'll enjoy looking at for years to come.

When to shoot? Check out from top left: try shooting hoarfrost on prairie grasses in late fall. Capture early morning fog on a calm lake. Along Lake Superior in the morning light, shoot clouds in any season and snow and ice in winter.

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1. How old was the author when he took his first photograph?

2. When is it a good time to take photos?

3. What subjects should you photograph?

4. Why is it a good idea to take your camera along when you travel to new places?

5. Look at the photo on page 31. What makes it interesting?

6. What do you think the author means when he writes, "... see ordinary things in extraordinary ways"?

7. The word photography comes from what language? _____ What does it mean? _____

8. Why are the hours just after sunrise and just before sunset good times for taking photos?

9. When the sky is _____ or _____, keep it out of your pictures.

10. "Composing" a photo means _____

11. What should you do to keep clutter out of your photos?

12. Draw lines in the box below to show the "rule of thirds."



13. Select two of the nine right ingredients for a good photograph and explain why they are important components of a good picture.

14. A picture's format is either _____ or _____ .

15. How do the lines in a photo affect the way you view that picture?

16. The author concludes his article by suggesting that you make mistakes. Why?

Challenge: What does the saying "a picture is worth a thousand words" mean? Create a story for the photo on page 30.

MINNESOTA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

NAME _____ PERIOD _____ DATE _____

1. A bird's-eye view means you are looking at the subject from what direction?

- A. below
- B. above
- C. right
- D. left

2. Moving closer to your subject simplifies the

- A. background.
- B. foreground.
- C. subject.
- D. none of the above

3. The golden hours are

- A. just before sunrise and just after sunset.
- B. just before sunrise and just before sunset.
- C. just after sunrise and just after sunset.
- D. just after sunrise and just before sunset.

4. What does the photo on page 31 demonstrate?

- A. shape
- B. pattern
- C. background
- D. foreground

5. What time of year is best to shoot pictures of clouds?

- A. winter
- B. spring
- C. fall
- D. summer
- E. all of the above

STUDENT STUDY GUIDE: VOCABULARY

COMPOSING creating, arranging, or putting elements (subject, light, format, point of view) together

DIGITAL CAMERA a camera that does not use film, but instead records the image on a sensor where it can be viewed immediately.

DIMENSIONAL related to the dimensions (length, width, height) of an object format the format of a photo refers to either a vertical or horizontal orientation hoarfrost needle-like ice crystals

PASTEL a pale or subtle color

POINT OF INTEREST what the eye of the viewer settles on; the main subject of the photo

POINT OF VIEW position from which the subject is photographed

SATURATE to increase the difference or separation between colors

TEXTURE the contrast, lines and patterns in the photo

VIBRANT bright

VIEWFINDER separate lens the photographer looks through to compose a photo. Most compact digital cameras do not have viewfinders. Instead, the image is viewed on a monitor.

STUDENT STUDY GUIDE: VOCABULARY CARDS

Cut along horizontal lines, fold in the middle and tape or staple. Blanks are provided to allow you or your students to add new words or phrases

What does **COMPOSING**
a photograph mean?

FOLD

When a photographer is **CREATING, ARRANGING, OR PUTTING ELEMENTS (SUBJECT, LIGHT, FORMAT, POINT OF VIEW) TOGETHER** he or she is

What is a
DIGITAL CAMERA?

FOLD

A **CAMERA THAT DOES NOT USE FILM, BUT RECORDS THE IMAGE ON A SENSOR**, is a

A **DIMENSIONAL**
photo is a picture that

FOLD

A **PHOTOGRAPH THAT EMPHASIZES THE DIMENSIONS (LENGTH, WIDTH, HEIGHT) OF AN OBJECT** is referred to as

The **FORMAT**
of a photograph is its

FOLD

The **VERTICAL OR HORIZONTAL ORIENTATION OF A PHOTOGRAPH** is its

What is **HOARFROST**?

FOLD

NEEDLE-LIKE ICE CRYSTALS
are called

What is a **PASTEL** color?

FOLD

A **PALE OR SUBTLE
COLOR IS CALLED a**

What is the
POINT OF INTEREST
in a photograph?

FOLD

The **MAIN SUBJECT
OF THE PHOTO**
is called the

What is the
POINT OF VIEW
of a photograph?

FOLD

The **POSITION FROM WHICH THE
SUBJECT IS PHOTOGRAPHED**
is called the

To **SATURATE** is to

FOLD

To **INCREASE THE
DIFFERENCE OR SEPARATION
BETWEEN COLORS** is to

What is **TEXTURE**?

FOLD

The **CONTRAST, LINES AND
PATTERNS IN A PHOTO** is its

When a color is **VIBRANT** it is

FOLD

When a color is **BRIGHT** it is

What is a **VIEWFINDER**?

A **SEPARATE LENS THE PHOTOGRAPHER LOOKS THROUGH TO COMPOSE A PHOTO** is called a

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD

FOLD
