

# THINKING ABOUT THE PHOTOS YOU TAKE

## OBSERVE

**Framing:** When framing the picture, try to fill the frame with relevant and interesting elements.

**Emphasis:** Include a focal point of the photograph, a subject that is emphasized.

**Angle of view:** Take pictures from the subject's eye level to capture it realistically, or change the angle to alter the point of view.

**Balance:** Create a sense of weight for the elements within the frame; some objects will have a large sense of weight and some will have a small sense of weight.

**Rule of thirds:** Offset your picture to help focus the viewer's eyes on the subject.

**Close-ups:** Take close-up pictures to capture details and highlight specific objects.

**Tone and sharpness:** Use light and shadow to focus attention on or draw attention away from your subject. Have your subject in focus and blur the extraneous elements to draw viewers to the subject.

**Arrangement:** Remove objects not essential to the composition, or eliminate them by changing the camera's perspective.

## REFLECT

What's the purpose of the photograph?

What will people think when they see the image?

Can you clearly identify the people in the photo?

Who's the intended audience?

What can you infer about the era in which the photo was taken?

What important information might be missing from the photo?

What explicit and implicit messages does the photo send?

## QUESTION

What does this photograph make me wonder about?

Where could I find more information about the subject of the photograph?

How does this photograph fit into my ideas about the world?