



Photography with still or video cameras

Description	Children and young people can use cameras, digital cameras or video cameras by themselves or in groups. They can be used to identify and illustrate things that are important to them. You can work with a group of children and young people as a film crew where they record the views/ experiences of their peers or community. They may wish to highlight particular areas of concern, for example within their home environment.
Age Range	3+
Time	30 minutes to 1.5 hours or a longer term project over a number of weeks
Cost	Cost of hiring or purchasing equipment Note: When purchasing disposable cameras, it is cheaper to buy those with processing included in the price. Cost of a professional photographer/ film maker. You may also think about how you will present the finished product and cost in publication or editing time and costs.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children can decide what to record and why - You can produce an accessible and powerful message from children and young people - Polaroid and digital cameras give an instant image - Writing and drawing skills are not needed - Children can express opinions freely on video (as long as it is not offensive to individuals or communities) - Digital cameras are cheap to run once you have bought them and younger children may find the big screen easier to use - Detail of images can be extracted and enlarged from a digital camera
Drawbacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can be expensive if using one camera per child: limit the number of photos or use one camera between a group - Time to develop films can prevent discussion about images recorded - Video footage only shows one side of an argument - People may play up to the camera/video - Some people do not like being recorded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be prepared for a few 'rabbit ears' or hand gesture pictures - If using film, any music you use will need copyright clearance.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The context surrounding the photo needs to be discussed to remember why it was taken - Books could be made from the images taken to record the children's thoughts and opinions - Consent needs to be obtained from parents and children to ensure they are aware of how the photos and videos will be used.
Example	Gleadless Valley Streetkids were given a disposable camera to film their home environment. This was then collated into a document that was presented to councillors and other officials in a bid to improve the poor condition of their play areas
Contact	Carol Pugh 01904 552355.