Photography and Visual Literacy

See also: **Help Students Close Read Iconic Images**; **See, Think, Wonder**

NEW: **2023 Photos of The Year**	Can A Picture Change The World?;	Weekly Feature: What's Going On In This Picture?	Photos That Changed The World	Importance of Visual Literacy In K-12 Education
Top 50 Photo Blogs	NYPL Picture Collection	9/11 Iconic Images	Images of War	Media magazines
The Best of Photojournalism	Have You Read A Good Picture Lately?	After a Picture From the Gulf, Thousands of Words	Images of the Civil Rights Movement	Semiotics/Signs

KEY QUOTE:
"Most of us are bombarded by persuasive imagery while not exactly schooled in visual literacy a lot of this messaging skips right past the messaging filter and goes directly into our heads." (Michael Shaw, founder of "Reading The Pictures" formerly Bag New Notes)

INTRODUCTION
Every day, we see and are exposed to hundreds perhaps thousands of images that pass through our radar screens. Unfortunately, not many of us know how to "read images."

Many of our students don't question media: they believe everything they see—including digitally altered images seen in the media.

One of the ways to teach critical thinking and "media literacy" is to start with the still image. Because of the Internet, it is easier than ever to access these images. Here

are some recommended sites:

[LENS](#), NYT photojournalism blog	[Read/Write/Web](#)
[Jamie McKenzie's recommendations](#)	[Awesome Stories Images](#)
[LIFE magazine archives](#)	[March Of Time](#) newsreel archives
[EduPic](#); [Pics4Learning](#); [Pixabay](#);[Imageafter](#) free graphics/photos	[Picturing the Past](#) (1840-1900)
[National Geographic](#)	[Pictures of the Year International](#)
[The New Eyes Project](#)	[National Archives](#)
[Picturing America](#)	[click: photography changes everything](#)
[Panoramio: Photos of The World](#)	Internet Archive: [Movie Archive](#)
[Masters of Photography](#)	[New York Times Image Archive](#)

Your school's arts educator is a perfect partner in understanding the concepts of visual literacy. Your students can start with paintings and then move onto other images, such as photographs.

Because mobile phones now incorporate cameras, and due to the size and cost of digital cameras, it is easier than ever for students to take photographs and incorporate images into their projects.

This web site is a resource and is designed to provide the K-12 educator ideas, readings, lesson plans and other valuable tools for classroom instruction.

Click on the links in the left hand column to access those resources.

For additional resources, see [Vis Lit & 21st Century Skills](#) wiki
Knowledge Quest [Visual Literacy Issue](#)
[Vis Lit Resources on the Web](#)
[Visual Literacy Internet Resources](#) (ALA)
[Recent Trends in Media Use in Schools](#)

[Visual resources online: Digital images of primary materials on public Web sites](#) (C&RL News, May 2008)