

# Introducing Cameras in a Classroom

The initial introduction of a camera is an opportunity to develop thoughtful and purposeful ways of handling the equipment.

Important elements include:

- using the camera around the classroom before having the students use it.
- introducing the camera without making an issue or even a mention that it is an expensive piece of equipment to build trust.
- a neck strap for supporting a camera.
- having an extra battery charged and ready to go.



## The Introduction Sequence

To support understanding and build interest in using the camera, it is beneficial to introduce it on consecutive days in short periods of times. The following introductory events are best done in a circle sitting on the floor or in chairs. The teacher always models first with the student seated next to them. A possible sequence is as follows:

**Day 1** - passing the camera between two people. The first person passes the camera to the second person. First person asks *do you have it* with the second person responding *yes* or *no*. Then the first person moves the neck strap from themselves to the second person. This is continued around the whole circle.

**Day 2** - Add to the day 1 skill turning the power on and off.

**Day 3** - Add to the day 1 & 2 skills the record button on and off with a focus on the lights and words that appear when the camera is in the record mode.

**Day 4** - Add to the day 1, 2 & 3 skills each person recording the person next to them saying *hello* or different ways of saying *hello*. Watch the video.

**Day 5** - Zoom in and zoom out actually walking towards and away from a person without looking through the viewfinder. If recorded, watch the video after everyone has recorded.

**Day 6** - Pan camera left and right.

**Day 7** - Zoom in and zoom out with the zoom button on the camera.

**Day 8** - Angle up and down.

Continuing Days - any other specific parts of the camera that would support the students use of the equipment. Provide assignments that put the above skills into action.

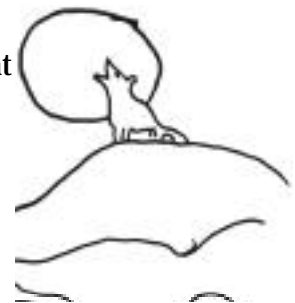
## Camera Modeling

Prior to introducing the camera in a circle with the students, it is an excellent model to be using the camera in the classroom the week or two before.

## Vocabulary

**Zoom** - *in & out*; **Pan** - *left & right*; **Angle** - *up & down*

**Focus** - *sharp & soft*; **Filming** - *action & cut*



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