

4-H Photography Monday

Week 4 Challenge

Lighting

Direction of Light

- Light can come from any direction.
- Where the light comes from and where it hits the object you are photographing will affect the way your photo looks and feels.
- Sometimes you will need to move yourself, your subject (if possible), or both to achieve the lighting you want.

Practice taking photos with the following directions of light

- Front Lighting
 - Subject is lit directly from the front
 - This type of light is flat and produces very few shadows
 - Can take away from the texture and form of the subject
 - Usually not good for people and animals because it causes them to squint
- Side Lighting
 - The light source illuminates roughly half of the subject
 - The side facing the light is brighter than the side in the shadows
 - Textured surfaces become very obvious when lit with side lighting
- Backlighting
 - The subject is in front of the light source
 - Can be a pretty type of lighting for photographing people
- Silhouettes
 - An extreme example of backlighting
 - The object appears dark and the scene behind it is lit up
 - The angle of the camera in relation to the light source is most important
- Light Coming from Above and Below
 - Can produce an eerie effect that seems unnatural

Questions to think about:

What did you find to be the easiest and hardest direction of lighting to achieve?

Do you find it easier to photograph people and animals or inanimate objects, and why?

When photographing people, you must give clear directions in how you want them to pose.

What are some other examples of times when clear directions are important?

How can you personally work on giving directions more clearly?



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