



A Photo for Greta

By Anna Alter

www.annaalter.com

Activities

A Photo for Greta includes the following activities to expand on some of the ideas in the book:

Make your own photo album!

Greta's dad takes many pictures of people who are important to him. What and who is important to you? Take a picture of three people or things that are important to you and glue the pictures into a notebook. Then write a paragraph next to each picture about why you chose it.

Conduct a job interview!

Greta's dad is a photographer. What does your mom or dad do for a job? Make a list of questions about your parents' jobs and then interview them. What do they like about their jobs? What kinds of things do they learn about at work? What are some of the activities they do at their jobs?

Make a daily photo journal!

Spend a week taking pictures of one thing you do each day. At the end of the week, glue them into a notebook. Then list three details about each activity next to the pictures.

Study a photographer!

Go on a trip to your local library and research some different photographers. What types of things do they like to take pictures of? What makes their pictures unique? Try taking some pictures in their style.

Additional bonus activities:

Recreate pictures by your favorite photographer!

After you've discovered some photographers at the library, choose your favorite. Look at some of that person's photographs and think about what makes them different, then try to imitate their style with your own photographs. For instance, William Wegman is a photographer who takes pictures of his dog in different costumes. If he is your photographer of choice, try dressing up your dog (or a toy dog) in a costume you see in one his photographs and take a picture. Do you like working in that photographer's style?

Make a time lapse photo study!

Pick an object or person to photograph (a tree in the park, a street sign, a blooming flower, or a family member all work nicely). Take a picture of that person or thing at four different times during the day, from the same spot. Look at all of the pictures next to one another and think about what is different. How has the light shifted? Has the person or object changed in any way? Time lapse photos look interesting framed next to one another.

Make a photo matching game!

Take a picture of ten objects around your house. Print the photos with your computer or at a photo store. Cut out ten pieces of paper or cardboard that are the same size as the photos and write the name of the objects you chose on them. Shuffle them into the photos and then place them all face down on a table. Take turns with a partner turning over two pieces of paper at a time, attempting to make a match. If you get a match, remove it from the table and take a second turn. If you do not make a match, flip the cards over so they are face down again. When the cards have all been cleared from the table, whoever ends up with the most matches wins!

Make a photo collage!

Some artists use photographs to make collage artwork. Print out some photographs you have taken and gather some glue, paints, brushes, scissors and posterboard. Get creative by cutting up the photos and pasting them onto the posterboard, adding details with your paints or other materials you like to use.

Drawing from photos!

Take a photo you have taken or one from a magazine and cut it in half. Paste the picture onto a piece of drawing paper. Use colored pencils or paints to fill in the part of the picture that is missing. You can use a realistic style or embellish using your imagination.

Make a Dada photomontage!

Dada artists made “surreal” photo collages, that is they mixed images from reality with fantasy. Collect photographs and pictures from magazines to cut and paste together that combine objects or people you might see in real life with fantastical images to make your own Dada art.