

Passionate Observer: Eudora Welty
Among Artists of the Thirties



**“Snapshots” and Short Stories:
Capture an image—visually and in prose or poetry**

Target group: Elementary, Middle, High School

NYS Learning Standards:

The Arts:

Standard 1: Creating, Performing, and Participating in the Arts

English Language Arts:

Standards 2: Language for Literary Response and Expression

Goals:

To create a “snapshot” capturing a “pregnant” moment.

Communicating the photograph through the written word—prose or poetry

Materials:

Camera

Human subjects

Materials for writing a story or crafting a poem.

Question to Consider:

How will students’ learn to “see” an important moment?

What form of writing—prose or poetry will best capture the visual image?

Activities:

Have a *Visual Thinking Strategies* discussion about a number of Welty’s photographs.

Talk about the “pregnant” moment—that special time just before an event happens.

Sometimes the subject of a photograph is captured just after a major event (like the photographer who did a series of children’s photographs right after she took the lollipop out of their mouths). Help the students to find some other examples of special moments that are reflected in a subject’s face.

Students will take a photography “safari” looking/waiting/creating the circumstances for a special moment.

Students will create a literary piece—prose or poetry that best describes their photograph.

They may also exchange with another student and write about their photograph.