

Indiana Farm Security Photographs



Analyzing a Photo

Students can engage in photographic observation by learning how to analyze photographs. Students can also use photographs for a discussion of the use of photography as a historical document. The students can discuss elements such as composition, balance, focal point, perspective and lighting. They can also discuss the content of the photo such as the location, time of day, the season, clothing, furniture and fixtures, architecture and other features.

Photographer's name:

Date of photograph:

Title of photograph:

Describe the people, objects, setting and activities in the photo.

What is happening in the photograph?

Are there specific details that provide clues to what is happening?

Are there any details that suggest a time, date, season or year?

Are there any details that suggest where the photograph was taken?

What is your overall impression of the photograph?

Based on your observation, what general conclusions can be drawn from the photograph?

What questions does the photograph raise?

Where could you find answers to them?

Why do you think the photographer took this particular photo?

What do you think were the motivations of the photographer?

What might an appropriate alternative title for this photograph be?

What biases, points of view or assumptions do the photographs suggest?