

Lights, Camera, FILM Literacy!  
Lesson Plan #27

**Topics:**

**Journal Writing**  
**Creating a Documentary Film**

**Outcomes:**

Students will follow organizational procedures.  
Students will see and hear applicable vocabulary.  
Students will work on the production of their documentary film.

**Materials:**

Writing journals  
Camcorders  
Tripods  
Computers  
Post-it notes

Handouts: Creating a Documentary Film (in students' folders)  
Shot List

**New Vocabulary:** *(no new words)*

**Sequence of Events:**

**I. Journal Activity (15)**

Prompt:

**How do you feel about making a documentary film?**

**II. Status and Clarification (15)**

1. As a class, have each group report which step on the planning sheet they are currently working on.

HANDOUT: Creating a Documentary Film (in student folders)

2. Clarify questions about the planning sheet.
3. Tell students they are under a time crunch (the same as most professional filmmakers) and must complete a quality film as soon as possible.
4. Remind students that they must secure the teacher initials when they complete a step on the planning sheet.

**III. Documentary Pre-Production and Filming (155)**

1. Groups work on their documentaries with close supervision.
2. Make sure groups stay on task and encourage them as they moving through the process.

**IV. Reflection (15)**

1. Direct students to the hanging chart paper labeled:

**What did you learn about planning a documentary film?**

2. Hand out Post-its on which students write and post.
3. Review the comments on the Post-Its with the class, so students have a sense of what was learned that day. Make sure to clear up any misconceptions.

