



LESSON OF THE MONTH:

GRAPHIC DESIGN: PHOTOSHOP

TITLE: GRAPHIC DESIGN USING PHOTOSHOP

CONTENT AREA:

Technology: Communications

GRADE LEVEL:

Upper Elementary

STANDARDS:

- Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology.
- Students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior.

PURPOSE:

The students will create a graphic design career project using the software, *Adobe Photoshop*.

LENGTH OF TIME:

60-minute lesson

MATERIALS:

Computers, *Adobe Photoshop* (any version), projector, cameras, green screen (optional), Resource Sheet 1: Graphic Design Activity, Resource Sheet 2: Graphic Design Example



Fast Facts

For additional tutorials and resources for Adobe Photoshop, use the following websites.

- <http://www.photoshopcafe.com>
- <http://library.creativecow.net>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xS5uh5TCXcU>



Note to Teacher: Basic knowledge of computer operations (starting a software, navigating to different windows, opening a file, saving a file and printing) are recommended. Basic knowledge of *Adobe Photoshop* and its tools are also recommended. Before starting this activity determine where students should save their files.

WHOLE GROUP:

1. Discuss the following types of communications and examples with students:
 - Verbal – talking, singing
 - Nonverbal – body language, gestures
 - Written – book, newspaper, email, texting
 - Visual – picture, photo, billboard

2. Define the term graphic design with the students.

Graphic design is a type of communication in which pictures and words are used to express a message.

3. After defining the graphic design, show Resource Sheet 2: Graphic Design Example to the students and point out the two criteria (picture and words).
4. Discuss with the students the importance of a career.
5. Ask students to share their future career ideas and why they are interested in that career with the class. All students will need to choose one career that interests them for the Graphic Design activity. If students don't have a future career in mind, then ask them to think about their current hobbies and interests. These interests can translate into a future career. For example, if one likes to play video games encourage him/her to consider a video game designer as a future career.
6. Explain to the students that they will be creating a graphic design project of themselves in their future career.
7. Ask the students to use the Internet to search for a picture that represents their career interest. This picture should include a full body or upper torso view of a career professional because the students will be inserting their own heads into the picture. Instruct the students to save the image in the designated location.



Note to Teacher: Use an internet search engine that is appropriate for your facility to search for the career pictures. Caricature (cartoon-like) career picture work well for this activity.

8. As the students are searching for their career pictures, take a picture of each student in front of the green screen. If a green screen is not available, find a location that has a solid color background. The camera should be focused on their head and face.
9. Import all the student picture files and save to a location where students can access them.
10. Introduce and demonstrate Photoshop using the Graphic Design Resource Sheet 1.
11. When all students have completed the activity have them print out their pictures.
12. Ask students to share their projects and why they chose that career.

RESOURCE SHEET 1: GRAPHIC DESIGN ACTIVITY

PHOTOSHOP TOOLS:

The tools listed will be needed for the following graphic design activity. Introduce and demonstrate these tools before starting the activity.



Move Tool: Use this tool to move objects within a layer. Hold the Shift key to constrain the movements to vertical, horizontal or diagonal.



Crop Tool: Use this tool to cutout the selected area. Anything outside of the selection will be deleted.



Eraser Tool: Use this tool to manually erase contents on the selected layer.



Magic Eraser: Use this tool to automatically erase any specific color from the selected layer.



Horizontal Type Tool: Use this tool to create text. Single click and start typing or click and drag to create a box for the text.

History panel: This panel keeps track of every proceeding step in the project. If a mistake is made, use the History panel to undo the mistake. **The History panel is located in the Window menu.**

GRAPHIC DESIGN INSTRUCTIONS:

Use the following steps to lead the graphic design activity. Demonstrate the steps with an example and have the students follow along.

Steps:

1. Launch Adobe Photoshop.
2. Open the picture file.
Use the Open command in the File menu to open the student's head shot file.
3. Cropping the picture.
Use the Crop Tool to crop out the student's head.
4. Erasing the background.
Use the Magic Eraser Tool to remove the solid color background.
Use the Eraser Tool to erase everything else **except the head**.
Use the History panel to remove any erasing mistakes.
5. Save erased background picture as a Photoshop project.
Use the Save As... command in the File menu to save the project as a Photoshop format (PSD).
6. Opening career picture.
Open student's career picture file so they are side by side.
7. Combining the pictures.
Use the Move Tool to drag the student's head to their career picture.
8. Save student's career project as a Photoshop format.
Use the Save As... command in the File menu to save the project as a Photoshop format (PSD).

9. Resizing the head.

Use the Move Tool to resize the student's head and move it to the appropriate location on the career picture.

10. Adding text.

Use the Horizontal Type Tool to type out a sentence about his/her career.

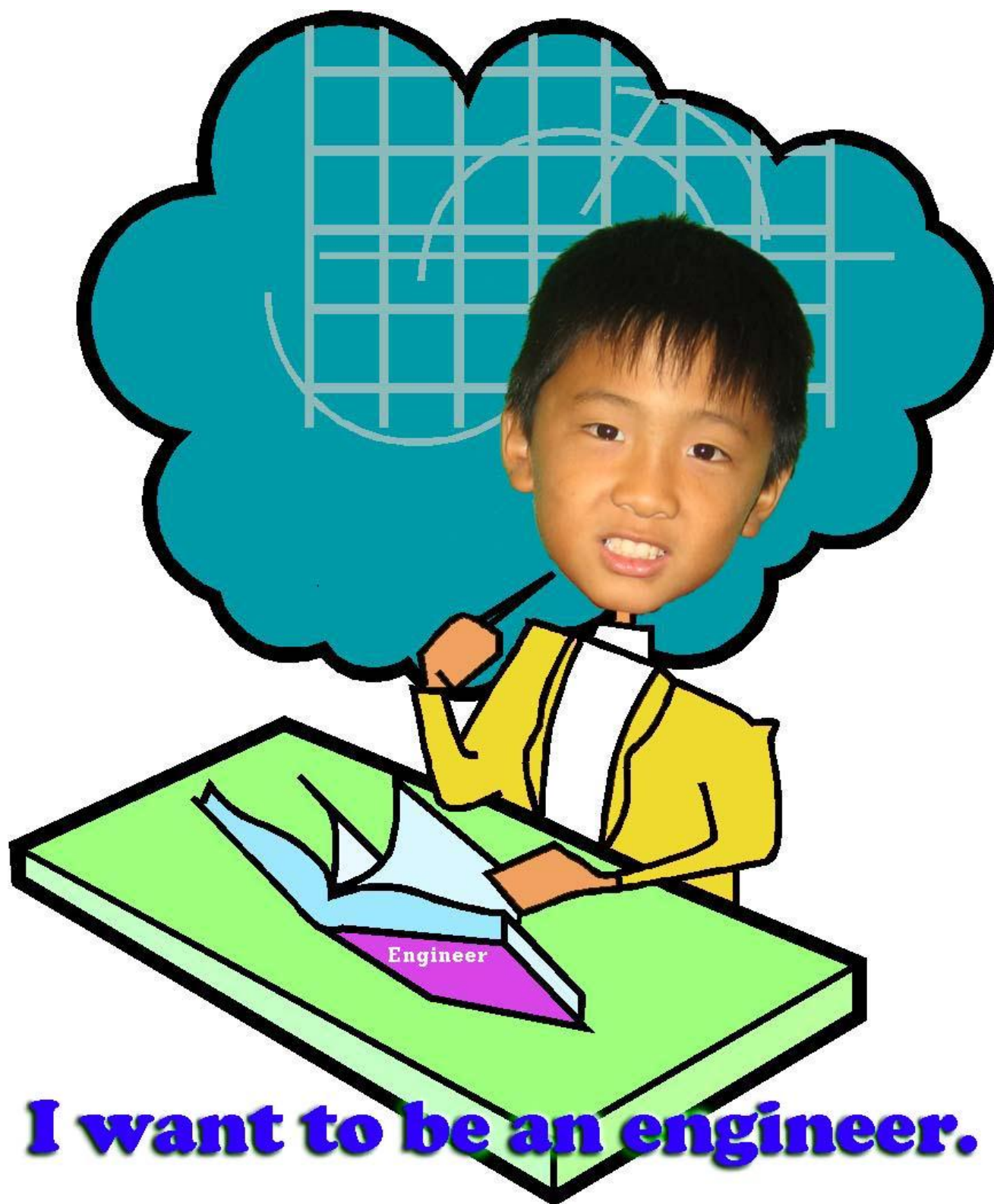
11. Save student's career project as a jpeg picture (optional).

Use the Save As... command in the File menu to save the project as a jpeg format.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE:

To learn more about Photoshop tools, go to the following website

http://simplephotoshop.com/photoshop_tools/



I want to be an engineer.