



The Multimedia Project
 Project-Based Learning
 with assessment
 Multimedia
 student-directed
 defined time-frame
 real-world

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Advice on: Basic Lighting

It's important to have lighting that fits with your purposes. Generally you'll want lighting that will let the viewers see what you want them to see.

What you DO want

adequate lighting

light source in front of or above the subject

What you DON'T want

inadequate lighting

light source behind the subject (this could be a window)

the camera shooting directly into a light

- Adequate lighting - You want lighting that is bright enough to let you see what you are video taping with the amount of detail you want. If the light is too dim or dark, you won't be able to see much on your video tape.
- Light source in front or above the subject - ideally you will want your light to come from where the camera is set up - this will prevent shadows on objects or people's faces. If you have a light on your camera, you might use this along with other light sources (like lights in a classroom, or natural sunlight). Be sure to check how far away an object can be and still benefit from the light on the camera.
- If you use the overhead lights in the classroom or natural sunlight, make sure the camera is not tilted up into the light. You don't want to shoot directly into any light because you may damage the camera.
- In general, you don't want the source of light to come from behind your subject. If a light source is behind an object, it will seem dark and you may not be able to see what is going on, or the details of the object.
- If there isn't enough light available, try using the "gain" or "backlight" button. This will let the camera work with less light, however the video may not look as clear.

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