

Amplifying Student Voices: Creating Reflective Video Projects



Imagine the impact of students sharing about their journey of reflection and growth with a wider audience. As educators, let's bring out those powerful voices through the creation of **student video stories**.

Use this resource as a guide for special considerations when creating video projects that inspire everyone in your district to think a little deeper about their own learning adventures.

The Importance of Student Voices

- **The Power of Reflection:** Discuss how reflection aids in personal growth and academic success.
- **Mastery of Core Competencies:** Highlight the importance of continual competency development.
- **Digital Documentation:** Explain the advantages of using digital portfolios, like SpacesEDU, for showcasing achievements and growth.

Planning your Reflective Video Project

Leadership and Collaboration: Every successful project begins with a strong team. Think about the roles that will be crucial for your video project and who might fill them. Here are some suggested roles to get you started:

- **Project Lead:** This person coordinates the project, ensuring that all pieces come together.
- **Content Director:** Responsible for shaping the narrative and content of the video.
- **Technical Advisor:** Oversees the technical aspects of filming and editing.
- **Student Liaison:** Acts as the bridge between the student body and the project team.

Selecting Theme and Content: Choosing a theme that resonates with your students is key to creating a meaningful video. Below are some themes to consider.

- The Power of Reflection
- Understanding Core Competencies
- The Benefits of Digital Portfolios

Privacy and Ethics: As you plan your video, consider how you will protect students' privacy and ensure ethical practices are in place.

Note: Please see **page 2** for a consent form template that can be used to obtain agreement from students and their families.

Engaging Questions and Prompts:

- Can you describe a moment when you overcame a personal obstacle? What did it teach you about yourself and how you approach challenges?
- Looking forward five years, what is one goal you hope to have achieved, and why is it important to you?
- Reflecting on the past year, in what ways do you feel you have grown the most? How has this growth influenced your outlook on life and learning?
- What is a core value or belief that guides your decisions and actions? Can you share an example of how this value or belief was challenged or reinforced recently?

Video Production Tips:

- **Preparation:** Plan your shots and script around the chosen prompts to ensure a smooth filming process. A clear plan helps in capturing focused and relevant content.
- **Lighting and Sound:** Good lighting and clear audio are crucial. Record in quiet, well-lit spaces to enhance video quality. Natural light and minimal background noise are best.
- **Stability and Framing:** Use a tripod or steady surface for filming. Frame your subject thoughtfully, ensuring they are clearly visible and centered.
- **Editing:** Use simple editing tools to cut and stitch your footage. Keep your video concise (2-5 minutes) to maintain viewer engagement.

Draft Consent Form for Participation in Reflective Video Project

Dear Student and Family,

We're excited about the upcoming [title of your reflective video project], where students like you share their thoughts, experiences, and growth stories. Your voice is powerful, and your story is important to us!

Before we begin, we need your permission to be included in the video, which may be shared with our school community and beyond. Please read this form carefully with your family, fill in the blanks, and sign below if you agree to participate.

Student Name: _____

Grade/Class: _____

Where the Video Will Be Shared:

- [List possible platforms, e.g., school website, district social media, etc.]

Consent and Permissions:

By signing this form, I/we give permission for:

- My/our student's participation in the video project.
- The recording and use of my/our student's voice and image in the project.
- The sharing of the video within the platforms and contexts described above.

I/we understand that:

- Participation is entirely voluntary.
- I/we can withdraw consent at any time before the video is shared, by notifying [Contact Person] at [Contact Information].
- Efforts will be made to use the material respectfully and within the context of the project only.

Student Agreement:

I agree to participate in the reflective video project and have discussed it with my family.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Agreement:

I/we give permission for my/our student's participation in the reflective video project.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for considering being part of this exciting project! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [Contact Person] at [Contact Information].