

Title of Session: Next Vista for Learning - Turning Photos into Video, Pt. 2  
Moderator: Rushton Hurley  
Title of File: 20061207nextvista  
Date: December 7, 2006

Room: Next Vista Group

**BJB2:** If Rushton shares any urls, hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard when you click...or disable pop up blockers

**RushtonH:** Let's give it a quick try - take a look at <http://www.nextvista.org>

**BJB2:** we usually start all Tapped In discussions with introductions. Please tell Rushton where you are located and what you teach

**RushtonH:** Were you able to bring up the page?

**BJB2** waits to see if everyone got the url

**JackieHal:** I got it .....

**JodeeJu:** Rushton, I was able to bring up the page. I teach 4th grade in Liberty, Missouri

**RushtonH:** Heartland - cool!

**JackieHal:** I teach high school math in Kearney

**DeanneR:** Got it. La Puente, Calif - 7-8 grade music

**RushtonH:** Deanne, I'm teaching a group of 7th and 8th graders video production this year - God bless you!

**DeanneR** smiles

**RushtonH:** The Missouri contingent is strong, definitely.

**RushtonH:** I'd like to get started - does anyone else have anything preliminary to add?

**RushtonH:** Last time, we looked at a series of slideshows, first with just pictures, then with titles, then with transitions, and then we added audio.

**BJB2** . o O ( David teaches teachers how to use tech and he's in one of the mid Atlantic states )

**FredK:** I am a tutor for literacy in SE Oklahoma

**RushtonH:** Would you like to review those?

**BJB2** nods to Rushton...I don't think anyone other than Fred was here for the last discussion

**JodeeJu:** sounds like a start

**BJB2** . o O ( please correct me if I'm wrong! )

**JackieHal:** sounds great

**RushtonH:** Fred is the only returnee, I believe (style points to him).

**FredK** has short memory

**RushtonH:** Do all of you use a digital camera (give a yes, no or sort of)?

**BJB2:** yes

**JodeeJu:** yes

**DeanneR:** yes

**FredK:** yes

**JackieHal:** have one

**RushtonH:** Good deal. Have any of you made a slideshow video using photos before?

**JackieHal:** no

**DeanneR:** yes

**FredK:** not yet

**DavidWe** . o O ( New Jersey is THE mid-Atlantic state David is in, most of the time )

**JodeeJu:** no, but have watched one being made.

**RushtonH:** Got it.

**RushtonH:** You start by choosing an editor.

**JodeeJu:** recommend?

**RushtonH:** The easiest is Windows Movie Maker (which I'll abbreviate as WMM).

**DeanneR:** what mac users

**RushtonH:** For Mac users, it's iMovie you'll use.

**RushtonH:** What we cover today will apply to both platforms.

**DeanneR:** great

**RushtonH:** I'll start with some things that may seem obvious to some, but are worth saying.

**RushtonH:** First, think in terms of choosing pictures and the order you want.

**RushtonH:** Let's start by taking a look at  
<http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow1.wmv>

**RushtonH:** Let me know when you've finished watching it.

**RushtonH:** Was everyone able to see the video?

**JackieHal:** yes

**DeanneR:** mine won't load

**RushtonH:** You can try typing the following into a text editor:

**JodeeJu:** mine won't either...I don't have moviemaker at home, and windows media won't play it.

**RushtonH:** <http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow>

**RushtonH:** each time we'll add a number plus .wmv

**RushtonH:** Deanne, are you using a Mac now?

**DeanneR:** yes

**RushtonH:** Apologies - there is a Windows Media player for the Mac, and I'm guessing you don't have it. I can help you get it after the meeting, but in the meantime, I'll describe what comes up.

**RushtonH:** How many of you did see the piece?

**JackieHal:** I saw it.

**FredK** joined the room.

**RushtonH**: Fred, were you able to see the video?

**FredK**: I messed up

**RushtonH**: Life is sometimes like this - don't worry, we'll still cover good ground for everyone!

**RushtonH**: It's the one that gets us started in talking about the slideshows.

**FredK**: It wouldn't finish loading

**RushtonH**: Are you on a dial-up?

**FredK**: yes

**RushtonH**: Ah.

**RushtonH**: It'll take time.

**FredK**: slow=slow

**RushtonH**: Okay, folks - I'll rearrange a bit.

**FredK**: url?

**RushtonH**: <http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow1.wmv>

**RushtonH**: For everyone else, last month after we watched this, we watched another which has titles (<http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow2.wmv>)

**FredK**: it's loading

**RushtonH**: And then another with transitions  
(<http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow3.wmv>)

**BJB2** . o O ( a reminder that the urls will be in your transcript which is sent to you when you log out )

**RushtonH**: And then a last with audio  
(<http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow4.wmv>).

**RushtonH**: If you're not able to load them, don't worry.

**RushtonH:** The last piece of learning about making them would be showing the power of motion in the pictures. For that, now or later, you can look at <http://www.nextvista.org/rhvideos/PASlideshow5.wmv>

**RushtonH:** So allow me to reorient us - when I say "slideshow video" do you feel like you know what I mean?

**RushtonH:** Please type yes or no

**DeanneR:** yes

**FredK:** sort of

**RushtonH:** Think of a Ken Burns documentary, where there are pictures coming and going,

**BJB2:** yehawww...the movie just loaded for me!

**JackieHal:** yes

**RushtonH:** and a narrator telling about them.

**BJB2:** yes

**RushtonH:** Have you used any (home-made) video with your classes before? (y/n)

**RushtonH:** Welcome back!

**BJB2:** no

**JackieHal:** not me

**JodeeJu:** I haven't either

**FredK:** no

**RushtonH:** Someone toss out a subject, and I'll use that as an example.

**BJB2:** . o O ( this is the underachiever group, Rushton )

**DeanneR:** no

**RushtonH:** Buehler? 8^)

**JodeeJu:** like...nature hike in a park?

**FredK:** Robert Frost

**BJB2:** shapes for an elementary class

**RushtonH:** Cool.

**BJB2** smiles...thanks, Fred

**RushtonH:** We'll use the nature hike first.

**RushtonH:** Imagine taking a picture of ten different trees/plants...

**RushtonH:** And then recording students telling what they are...

**RushtonH:** With maybe some other info about how the plant is used...

**RushtonH:** And stringing it all together as a way of telling about your trip.

**JodeeJu:** Kids would love it

**RushtonH:** It's a good activity for the students, and can be used as good PR for the PTA.

**RushtonH:** For Robert Frost,

**RushtonH:** You could do a biographical piece using pictures from the Library of Congress site,

**RushtonH:** Here, too, have students record the info as sound files...

**RushtonH:** and finish with a piece that you could show to next year's group as they do one on another author.

**RushtonH:** Do several a year (or each class at the school does one), and you'll have a library in no time.

**DeanneR:** I've seen this in some of my fellow music teachers' classes

**JackieHal:** any ideas for an algebra class?

**RushtonH:** Music is a wonderful subject for this setting.

**RushtonH:** For algebra, the easiest thing...

**RushtonH:** is to create examples of students solving problems...

**RushtonH:** Making a point of having them alert folks to common issues that can arise...

**RushtonH:** such as "whoa - remember you cannot divide by zero"

**RushtonH:** Point being,

**RushtonH:** That having something you tell the kids constantly...

**RushtonH:** told in a different medium (video)...

**RushtonH:** not only helps them remember it better...

**RushtonH:** but if they are making the pieces themselves, they learn by having to 'teach' it.

**JackieHal:** I really like that

**DeanneR:** I like that too

**JodeeJu:** I could see using this in elementary by having kids creating a "ways to survive 4th grade" to be seen by the next year's class.

**RushtonH:** I'd like to go on to talking about a resource for such things, but before I do, please give me a 'sounds good - let's go' or add another question to the discussion.

**JodeeJu:** go on

**JackieHal:** let's go

**DeanneR:** go on

**FredK:** . o O ( they can repeat it until they get it! )

**RushtonH:** Good deal.

**FredK:** let's go

**RushtonH:** How many of you have seen <http://www.nextvista.org> before?

**FredK:** me

**JackieHal:** not me

**DeanneR:** nope

**JodeeJu:** nope

**BJB2** has

**RushtonH:** Full count.

**RushtonH:** The site is the main project of my nonprofit, Next Vista for Learning...

**RushtonH:** The online library of Next Vista for Learning (free for you to use and contribute to) has three collections, and I am hoping some of you might create slideshow pieces to add to them.

**RushtonH:** Let's start with the collection we call, "Light Bulbs". Here the idea is to provide a video that helps a student better understand a topic, or gives a teacher another insight on presenting that topic to his or her students. After our meeting, please go to the library and pick one or two to watch.

**RushtonH:** This particular collection is at <http://www.nextvista.org/collection-list-light-bulbs/>

**RushtonH:** Please give the page a quick look

**RushtonH:** and let me know when you're back.

**BJB2:** wow! you've added a lot since last time, Rushton

**RushtonH:** Deanne, all the ones on this page should be no problem for you to see.

**FredK:** I looked at the "fractions" with my granddaughter

**RushtonH:** What did she think of it?

**DeanneR:** I got it thanks

**FredK:** Good presentation, but she explained the process before he did

**RushtonH:** Very cool!

**FredK:** Left comment

**JodeeJu:** I got it. And this might sound stupid, but why watch a video clip when you are going to teach the exact same thing?

**JackieHal:** So, it would be possible for a teacher to create a library of these, say on algebra topics, that kids could go to when they need a little help?

**JodeeJu:** I watched the clip on changing fractions to percents



**FredK:** Repetition helps learning

**RushtonH:** Yes (to Jackie's question), and you can store them on our site for the low, low cost of...

**JackieHal:** say they need help after they get home

**RushtonH:** zero!

**DeanneR:** Kids like it when someone else is teaching sometimes

**RushtonH:** It's totally free to you.

**JodeeJu:** True about repetition, and I hadn't thought about it as a 'home reference' for kids while doing homework or whatnot

**RushtonH:** Deanne is absolutely right - varying the presentation can be very powerful.

**JackieHal:** Now that is cool. Blows the saying, "you get what you pay for"

**BJB2** smiles

**RushtonH:** At home, parents might use it to review what they are trying to help their kids with.

**JackieHal:** yes!

**RushtonH:** Teachers might use these to get ideas on how to present topics differently.

**JodeeJu:** yeah, I see that

**RushtonH:** Teachers might also challenge their students to come up with other ways to explain the same topic.

**RushtonH:** I'll shift gears slightly (I want to make sure there is time for open-ended questions in about ten minutes).

**RushtonH:** Another collection is one we call "Seeing Service". You can use photos to tell about someone who does good things for the community. The idea here is to give kids who may not have a strong sense of self-worth some direction – for an hour or two a week or a month, they can do something interesting that helps them understand they have something to give.

**RushtonH:** Do any of you have volunteers who work with your schools?

**JackieHal:** not really

**DeanneR:** just parents

**JodeeJu:** parent volunteers who help in classrooms occasionally

**RushtonH:** A good lead-in...

**RushtonH:** is asking the students who the kind adults are they know...

**RushtonH:** in order to get them to associate the idea of 'helps others' with 'happy'

**RushtonH:** Kids need to know the adult world isn't just the crime and hatred that's on the news.

**RushtonH:** The third collection is called "Global Views". You can tell about your community - show your neighborhood, tell what you learn in school, tell what you do on the weekends, and describe your hopes for the future.

**RushtonH:** What is something interesting about your community that you could share in a few photos?

**JackieHal:** Ok....interesting around here is kind of a stretch

**FredK:** Rushton, take a look at the white board in the PCLC\_Grp room. Free-Ed.net has some interesting subjects

**JodeeJu:** town square? Jesse James' first bank robbery?

**RushtonH** laughs

**RushtonH:** Imagine this...

**JackieHal:** Ok Liberty has J. James first robbery but Kearney has his Bones

**RushtonH:** Children the age of your students in towns in China, Italy, or Ghana...

**RushtonH:** tell about their daily lives (what they do during and after school, etc)...

**RushtonH:** Would your students be interested in short pieces (5 min or less) along those lines?

**JodeeJu:** yes, very much so I'd imagine

**JackieHal:** You mean tell about our daily lives for the other countries?

**BJB2:** I'd be interested in that!

**DeanneR:** that would work well with my standards

**RushtonH:** Yes, though the difference between lives in rural and urban America would also be pretty distinct.

**RushtonH:** Also, what your kids think of as 'boring' in their daily lives...

**FredK:** You bet

**JodeeJu:** true...like what my kids think is a "city" compared to maybe New York City

**JackieHal:** I get it

**RushtonH:** would probably be quite interesting to Japanese or Argentine (or Boston) kiddos.

**RushtonH:** If you had help, would you be interested in working with your students to create a piece for one of Next Vista's collections?

**JackieHal:** How about a day in the life of an American high school student?

**RushtonH:** Even better, a high school student from a town of your size in your state.

**JodeeJu:** Possibly...although who knows with testing and time constraints.

**RushtonH:** The end goal of Next Vista is to give you resources that will save you loads and loads of time.

**RushtonH:** Better to concentrate on what individual kids do and don't know than to reinvent the wheel, I figure.

**JackieHal:** I have a group of juniors (17 of them) that is my "advisement group." All we do is talk....

**RushtonH:** Perfect.

**RushtonH:** Are they a leadership group of some sort?

**RushtonH:** Or is it more like a home room?

**JodeeJu:** I hear what you are saying, Rushton. I'm just saying that if it's not in our "curriculum", it may be difficult to spend a lot of time on.

**JackieHal:** Randomly selected.....more like a home room

**RushtonH:** Fair enough - the key is to get them doing something 'fun' that addresses the curriculum more effectively (at least with some topics) than more traditional approaches.

**FredK . o O** ( Who's got the camera? )

**JodeeJu:** I understand what you are saying. I do see where it could be fun and fit in..

**RushtonH:** Those of you who don't get the NextVista newsletter, I'd be happy to add you to the list. You can do so at our site (<http://www.nextvista.org/newsletter/>), or send me an e-mail ([rh@nextvista.org](mailto:rh@nextvista.org)) with your name, e-mail address, and location (city, state/province, and country), and I'll get you set up.

**RushtonH:** There are only one or two messages a month, and we certainly don't share the info with anyone else!

**DeanneR:** cool

**RushtonH:** What thoughts or questions are still out there?

**JodeeJu:** Sounds good.

**JackieHal:** What is needed as far as hardware besides a camera?

**JackieHal:** To create a slide or video

**RushtonH:** A microphone for your computer is a good addition...

**RushtonH:** Most (recent) Macs have them built in, as to many PCs,

**RushtonH:** though you can get simple ones for as little as a few dollars that will do the job.

**RushtonH:** The software you want is free.

**RushtonH:** For PCs, you can download Windows Movie Maker from the Microsoft.com site, though you might be surprised to find you already have it (you do need XP for this, I should add).

**RushtonH:** Video cameras take you to another level...

**RushtonH:** And you can get those for around \$300 or even less (depending on features)...

**RushtonH:** I recommend BHPphoto.com highly - very reasonable prices and excellent service.

**RushtonH:** And for the video camera, I'd suggest a few features...

**RushtonH:** First, a microphone jack.

**RushtonH:** Audio from just the camera mic is awfully limiting, and kids rarely speak loudly enough. 8^)

**RushtonH:** Second, use media that makes sense for you...

**RushtonH:** I use miniDV tapes, which are very straightforward.

**RushtonH:** Third, a firewire plug (IEEE-1394 for the technically inclined) is useful, because...

**FredK:** Friend of mine found a tiny video camera at Walmart (\$50)

**RushtonH:** A firewire cable allows you to control the camera from the computer.

**RushtonH:** The next one [Next Vista Discussion] will be in February

**BJB2:** I hope you will all be able to join the discussion and let us know what you've tried

**RushtonH:** I'll be gone on Jan 4th, and I suspect many others will be similarly unavailable.

**JackieHal:** Thank you

**BJB2:** February 1?

**RushtonH:** Thanks, everyone!

**FredK:** Thanks for today

**DeanneR:** thanks

**JodeeJu:** thanks!

**BJB2:** Thanks, Rushton...wonderful!

**RushtonH:** Thanks again! Stay in touch, and let's share good insights (yours, your students', both) with the rest of the planet! Humble bow.

**JackieHal:** applause!!