

Green-Schools Global Citizenship Marine Environment Marine Spatial Planning Photography Competition

Photography Tips

- 1. Know your **equipment**. The best camera is the one YOU know how to use!
- 2. Think creatively! Look around for interesting colours and textures in the environment. **What grabs your attention?**
- 3. **Lighting.** Early mornings and evenings tend to be the best lighting for outdoor photography.
- 4. Respect the wildlife and the environment. **Keep a safe distance** from animals to prevent them becoming distressed by your presence.
- 5. Always **be ready** for a wildlife moment opportunity! Have your camera on you and ready to use so that you can capture any unexpected sights.
- 6. Be prepared to get dirty and lie on the ground! Some of the most fascinating things in the environment are going on at ground level.
- 7. When photographing things in motion, like water, play around with variable **shutter speeds and exposure times**. Varying these can make for very different photographs, either making the water appear like its moving in slow motion, or can capture the power of the water.
- 8. Photograph your pets. One of the best ways to sharpen your wildlife photography skills is to practice on your pets.
- 9. Surroundings. When focusing on an object, move around a see what **angle** is best to take the photograph from.
- 10. Think outside the box. Water, be it an ocean or a puddle, can be used to make incredible mirrored reflective images.
- 11. Remember the **rule of thirds**. When taking photographs, divide the scene into nine equal squares, drawing three evenly spaced horizontal lines and three evenly spaced vertical lines to form a grid. To create an eye-pleasing photograph, the most important elements should be at or near where the lines intersect. Also, when taking a photograph of the horizon, it should lie on bottom line of the top third or second third on the grid.
- 12. Improve your **stability.** A sturdy tripod is useful when photographing in the great outdoors.
- 13. Pay attention to the smaller **details**. A focus on one single water drop can be just as impactful as a wide ocean scene.
- 14. **Be patient.** Sometimes it can take a while to get that exact shot!