

58 Ways Teachers Use Document Cameras

Teachers Use Document Cameras To:

1. Demonstrate new material.
2. Show students how to do assigned work. Things are more easily explained when they can see the problems worked out in front of them.
3. Demonstrate with 3-dimensional items. Resulting in less time spent passing an item around to view.
4. Give immediate feedback by displaying student work.
5. Enlarge text for students with vision impairments.
6. Show and score student or sample work.
7. Look at all the objects up close. Almost like having a projection microscope!
8. Increase effectiveness in communicating to large group information from a commonly held document. Example: a page from a book can be viewed by entire group to ensure that all students are on the correct page in the correct place.
9. Model what is expected in the steps included in a math concept.
10. Allow up-close and detailed observations of objects, mechanics of movement, manipulatives, etc. by the entire class.
11. Lead students in dissection by clearly demonstrating what the students should do, and point out the organs students needed to locate in their own fish. This would not have been possible with an overhead projector.
12. Enlarge all workbook pages, and worksheets. It is invaluable when reading directions, teaching and sharing student work.
13. Save pictures of a student's work that is not created in electronic form and add it to the student's portfolio. In this way, I save time in scanning!
14. Use in staff meetings to display forms while explaining procedure and initiatives.
15. Manage grading and the daily points on the wall projected from the document camera - to show missing assignments, absences.
16. Display entry tasks.
17. Show student work. They love to show off their work.
18. Project graphics and text on an entire wall. Students love seeing thing BIG when they can see/discuss illustrations.
19. Do extemporaneous demonstrations.
20. Zoom in on parts of a thermometer, and ruler, showing the smallest units and degrees.
21. Demonstrate activities so all the children can see.
22. Look over drawings and examples in the book, not having to recreate complicated problems.
23. Decreases prep time (don't have to make overheads, etc.) Use quality imagery.
24. Focus the students on what I'm pointing out because they can all see it well, whether it's words, letter combinations, coins and their details, or items from our science liquids and solids kit.
25. Math tools (rulers, compasses, calculators) show well on the document camera and the fact that it shows color makes color-coding and maps much more significant.
26. Zoom in the document camera to show the ingredients on packs of gum we were comparing, as the students did a scientific investigation on the mass of gum after it had been chewed.
27. As students are working on problems I have them share their work with the class. This immediate feedback enables other students to understand how one student solved a problem and allows a class to review a student's work for accuracy and completeness. This really encourages writing detailed solutions to problems.
28. Showing while we are doing....it's much better than trying to hold something up for them to see.
29. Display pictures of current events that we are discussing.
30. Take still shots with the document camera of isopods, crickets, cloud fish eating snail eggs on the walls of a student-built eco-column, and other live creatures.
31. Look closely at fish scales, pennies, salmon eggs (and have seen the embryos moving inside!) since the document camera has a nice "zoom" feature.

32. Have students bring objects for "sharing" and place them on the document camera, zooming in where needed.
33. Have students use it as they teach the class.
34. Enhance group discussion and help challenged learners "keep up with the pack."
35. Enable showing real assignments and objects so that the assignments and lessons are extremely clear.
36. Easily display an object, a written paper, a handout, a text..... No more burning transparencies and erasing the writing on them in order to use them again.
37. Place newspaper articles, magazine topics, student work on the document camera to share with the whole class.
38. Utilize in a class where English is not spoken as the native language this reduces the confusion for the children. They are able to successfully attempt the assignment because the document camera provides an effective filter to the barriers presented by giving oral directions.
39. Display graphs and charts or visual performances of student work.
40. Work with "at risk" students who require a significant amount of direct instruction.
41. Show pictures in color. I used it extensively for my housing project.
42. Provide full class immediate feedback about answers to questions.
43. Display a variety of examples, shorten lesson planning time, and display student examples.
44. Show documents immediately and appropriately sized for students to see, read and discuss.
45. Show slides.
46. Display relevant pictures from many sources.
47. Easily place examples from the book up on the board or graphs that are needed for solving different problems.
48. Demonstrate how to do hands-on projects in science (constructing objects).
49. Include visuals to enhance the lecture.
50. Put problems on the white board using the document camera. I also use it to put coordinate planes on the white board for students to use.
51. Zoom in on units of measurement to enlarge and demo how to use $1/16$, $1/8$, $1/4$ etc.
52. Have the visual of student work put up immediately is a huge impact for students and the teacher.
53. Demonstrate how to properly and easily use a compass to make circles of all sizes
54. Give all students a bird's eye view.
55. Go over tests with students to show correct answers.
56. Bring a lesson to life with the fact that all students are able to see what is being explained or modeled. Before I would have students gather around me in tiers so students could see the demonstration of math, reading, or science.
57. Model note-taking.
58. Show lab set ups and to make electronic boards and components more visible.