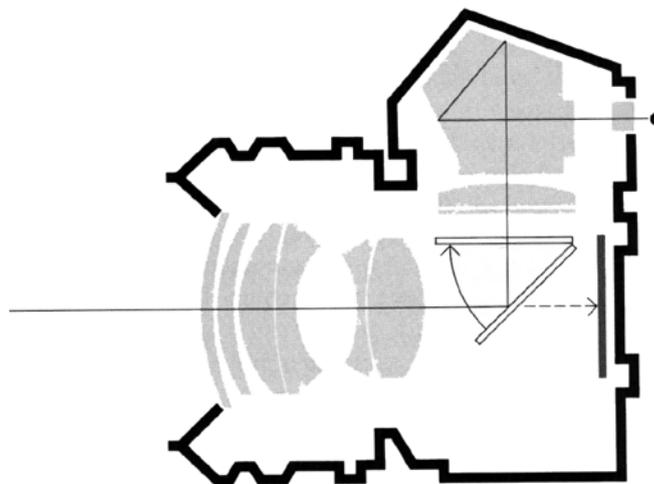


INTRODUCTION TO DSLR CAMERAS TEACHER'S RESOURCE

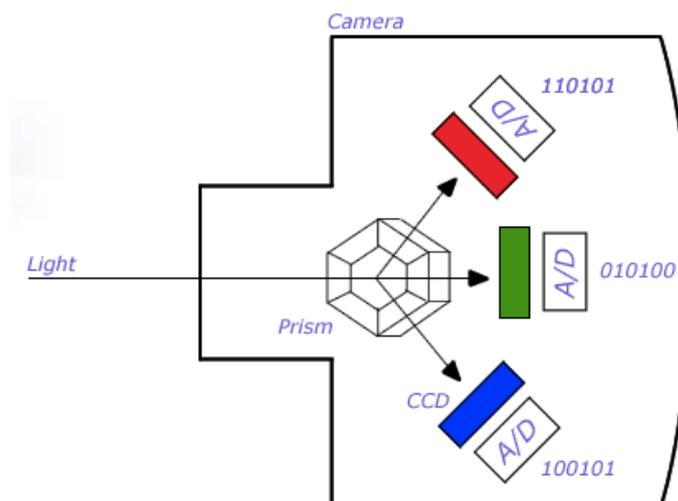
What is a DSLR camera?

A digital single lens reflex or DSLR camera allows you to view your picture through the same lens that is used to make the picture. What you see through the viewfinder is precisely what is recorded to make your photograph.



How do digital cameras work?

A digital camera uses a CCD (charge coupled device), which is a light sensitive computer chip, which captures and stores images on an internal or removable memory card.



Hints & Tips

Be aware of the background

Ensure that people in your photographs don't have background objects 'growing' out of their heads! A cluttered background will distract attention from your subject.

Move in close

To make a better impact, move in close to the subject and fill the frame. For small objects, switch the camera to the macro setting or 'flower' mode to get sharper close ups.

Be aware of lighting levels - set the camera for type of lighting source

Be aware where the light source is coming from and position yourself accordingly to ensure the light is lighting up the subject - don't position your subject in front of a light source or window as this result in the subject being silhouetted. You can use the flash to light up the foreground of the photograph. This is often called a 'fill' flash and can help to brighten the overall image.

Stand still when taking hand held pictures

Reduce potential for motion blur or poorly focused images. If in doubt use a tripod.

More is more

Why take one photograph when you fire off 4 or 5? Choose the best of the bunch later on.

Think about your composition

- Be aware of people's heads, arms and legs – make sure there's nothing growing out of anyone's head!
- Look for straight lines and even angles
- Be aware if the background
- Take some pictures with unusual angles – vary things and try to see things from a different point of view
- Focus on the details as well as the bigger picture

Photography activity suggestions

Textures - this could be a close up photograph of brick, carpet, wood or other surfaces

Colours - pick a colour and create one photograph that is filled with your chosen colour

Go low - take pictures from a low perspective to see what it is like to see things differently

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