

# Learning with

# iLife



## softwaresnapshot

**What students can do with iLife and iTunes**

**iTunes:** Store and organize their music and audio files

**iPhoto:** Store, edit, and organize their photos, and other images

**GarageBand:** Create their own background music and podcasts

**iMovie:** Compile elements and edit their movie

**iDVD:** Create a DVD of their movie, complete with a selection menu

**iWeb:** Create a website to share their movie

*The iLife applications are ideal for creating documentaries due to their combination of ease of use and powerful features. In fact, teachers say that students can learn how to create a movie in iMovie in about 10 minutes. This means they can keep the focus on learning the content, not on the tool itself. The entire iLife suite is included on every new Mac or can be purchased separately at low education pricing.*

## then and now

Making history come alive in the classroom can be a challenge, but now that we have great tools such as the iLife digital authoring suite to support learning, we can motivate students to learn about the past. When students create knowledge from information, collaborate with others, and do hands-on learning, they engage with the subject matter and learn, understand, and remember it.

Encouraging students to make documentaries is one way to inspire them to learn. They create and collaborate, research and share, and take ownership of their learning. The project presented here is designed to help them see how aspects of society change over time, that life wasn't always the way it is today, and learn how others who have lived through the changes view their lives and times then and now.

Documentary filmmaking in the classroom produces positive effects. Students can demonstrate their individual strengths and master the skills of researching, reading, writing, and speaking as they build critical 21st century skills—such as problem solving, collaboration, and the ability to gather and analyze data. With such project-based learning, students are motivated to do their best work and are proud to share what they've created – a professional-quality documentary.

For teachers, documentary filmmaking can offer a very natural formative assessment tool. They can evaluate student learning from the perspective of applying skills rather than from remembering facts for tests. In addition, creating a documentary changes students from being spectators of history to active participants. Students study history by filling in gaps, solving the mysteries, and exploring and understanding rather than memorizing. They are engaged in gathering evidence and analyzing and interpreting with the goal of presenting a story.

## special offer

**Get a free Digital Media Creation Kit with the purchase of any qualifying Apple Mobile Learning Lab. More info at [www.apple.com/education/mobilelabs/promo](http://www.apple.com/education/mobilelabs/promo).**

## resources

Apple Learning Interchange [edcommunity.apple.com/ali](http://edcommunity.apple.com/ali)

Apple Professional Development [www.apple.com/education/apd](http://www.apple.com/education/apd)

Apple Documentary Filmmaking in the Classroom  
[www.apple.com/education/documentary](http://www.apple.com/education/documentary)

iLife in the Classroom [www.apple.com/education/ilife](http://www.apple.com/education/ilife)

iMovie support and tutorials [www.apple.com/support/imovie](http://www.apple.com/support/imovie)

Flickr [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)

Library of Congress (American Memory home page) [memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html)

# project: then and now

**Grade Level(s):** 6-12

**Subject Area:** Social Studies

**Software:** iMovie, iPhoto, GarageBand, TextEdit, iDVD, Safari browser

**Technology Skill:** Documentary Filmmaking

**Essential Question:** How can we help students to understand that history is the study of change, that nothing remains constant and we can learn from the past to affect the future?

**Project Description:** Students use iLife applications to create a documentary that compares an aspect of today's society with its counterpart in the past.

## Outcomes: Students teams will:

- Research a topic
- Find, manage, and use information of various types
- Write a script and create a storyboard
- Acquire a cultural understanding of another era
- Use iLife tools to create a video presentation to display what they've learned

## Preparation:

1. Lead students to conduct background research so they can choose a topic. The topic for each team of students will be one aspect of society that demonstrates change from some time in the past to now.
2. Clarify expectations and assessment procedures.
3. Help students to define their roles on teams.
4. Determine equipment needs. (Eg. Videocameras, DV tapes, tripods)
5. Practice photography, filming, and interviewing techniques.

## Project Steps:

1. Select the topic that you will use for your documentary and pick an era that you think best shows how this aspect of society has changed.
2. Use the Internet to find out details about that period in history – both in general and specifically about your topic.
3. Find images on Flickr and video clips at the Library of Congress that show your topic in the past; import photos and video clips and edit in iPhoto and iMovie. Be sure to obey copyright and fair use laws.
4. Capture photos and video clips that demonstrate how things are now; import photos and video clips and edit in iPhoto and iMovie.
5. Find audio such as songs and background music that are appropriate to each era. Add the audio files to iTunes.
6. Locate people who remember what it was like in the earlier time, develop your interview questions, and conduct and videotape the interviews; edit your footage in iMovie.
7. Write a script in TextEdit or another word processor and create a storyboard matching your audio to the video clips and images.
8. Record your narration; compile all of the elements in iMovie, and edit your movie, adding titles, transitions, and other elements.
9. Create a DVD of your documentary with iDVD, or post it to a website with iWeb.

*Visit the Apple Learning Interchange to view a similar lesson titled "Past and Present" in which students merge past and current photos as they study historical and geographical change about where they live. The Apple Learning Interchange provides a dynamic environment for educators to view content, publish and collaborate.*

Go to [www.apple.com/education/docguide](http://www.apple.com/education/docguide) to download a free guide for creating classroom documentaries.

*Special section underwritten by Apple*



## Sample Topics:

Invite students to explore what items have changed over time. They can suggest topics such as fashion, technology, politics, music, family life, my community, war and peace, communication, commerce, or the environment.

## How to Use iMovie

- **Capture:** Let iMovie automatically transfer video and audio from a video camcorder.
- **Edit:** Edit your clips and add professional-quality effects such as cross-fades, wipes, and dissolves.
- **Enhance:** Enhance movies with music, voiceovers, and sound effects.
- **Share:** Export your movie to iDVD, add it to a website with iWeb, save it back to tape on your digital camcorder, or even copy it to your iPod.

## How to Get Started

- Look at examples of student created documentaries. Many are available on the Apple Learning Interchange or the Apple iLife in the Classroom website.
- Consider purchasing the Apple Documentary Resource Kit. This kit includes the National History Day "Using iMovie to Create a Documentary" DVD, a getting started guide written by experienced educators, and a resource CD.
- Visit the iMovie support site to access tutorials, step-by-step guides, and other helpful resources.
- Sign up for a two-day Apple Professional Development Documentary Filmmaking Workshop for up to 16 teachers delivered at your school site.