

ICONIC PHOTOS OF WAR AND CHILDREN

Choose one or more of these four activities: 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, or 1.1.4.

ACTIVITY 1.1.1: PHOTO ANALYSIS

Purpose:

- To emphasize the importance of slow and careful observation as the basis for subsequent interpretation;
- To develop inferences, questions, predictions and conclusions; and
- To create a caption for a photo.

Steps:

1. Divide the class into small groups. Assign each group one of the iconic photos (with its caption) featured in this gallery. Provide each group a Photo Analysis handout.
2. Ask each group to present its photo and analysis of this image to the class.
 - After each presentation invite group questions and discussions of the photo.
 - Share the notes on the photographs which are provided in the gallery.
 - Ask the group: Does this additional information change your response to the photo? If so, how and why?
3. Engage the group in a comparison of the relative power of the different photographs.
 - Print the page below with thumbprints of each photo.(1.1.2)
 - Give each student five sticky dots or stars to “vote” for the photos they find most powerful. A student can vote for one photo with all five dots, or five photos with one dot each, or two photos, with three and two dots...
 - Use the online gallery to take another look at the most powerful photos as determined by your students. Ask them to explain the reasons for their selections while the group views the larger images on a screen.

Note: Photo Analysis Steps 1- 3 were designed and developed by the Education Staff, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408.

HANDOUT: PHOTO ANALYSIS

1. *Observation*

Study the photograph for two minutes. Form an overall impression of the photograph. Describe this:

Use the chart below to list people, objects, and activities in the photograph.

<u>People</u>	<u>Objects</u>	<u>Activities</u>

Divide the photo into quadrants and study each section, identifying the new details which become visible. Write the details in the quadrants below.

2. Inference

Based on the observations, list three things you might infer from this photograph:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. Questions

What questions does this photograph raise in your mind?

Where could you find answers to them?

4. Caption

Write a caption for this photo.

5. Predictions

What do you think happened two minutes before the photo was taken?

Why?

An hour after?

Why?

6. Conclusions

What do you think makes this photo so powerful and memorable?
