

PHOTOSTORY 3 FOR WINDOWS XP
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Purpose. The software program, Photo Story 3 for Windows XP, is available as a free download from Microsoft Corporation. The purpose of this workshop is to encourage CATESOL teachers to download, install and use the program with their ESL students. Our hope is to demonstrate that the combination of using personal photos of family, work or school activities is an effective motivator to written communication. The process of importing photos onto a storyboard and explaining your photos with captions, frees the student, in my experience at least, from much of the anxiety that is normally experienced in the composition process.

In the workshop we will discuss the download, installation, instructions for creating a short photo story movie with captions and music. Several examples of finished projects will be shown.

Description of the Software. PhotoStory 3 for Windows XP has been developed for personal and classroom use as a trouble free method of making a video from still pictures. It is similar to Microsoft Powerpoint, but easier for students to use for video production.

How to Obtain the Software: Download the software from Microsoft:

www.microsoft.com/downloads

1. From Internet Explorer (browser) enter the address "Microsoft.com" and wait for the website to appear. This is the Home page for Microsoft Corporation.
2. Find the link called "Downloads and Trials" located in the right hand column.
3. Find "Download Center" and click.
4. Find "All Downloads" located in the left hand column, near the bottom.
5. Now you will see three search boxes. In the center box, enter "PhotoStory 3 for Windows" and press GO.

6. Next you will be asked to validate your original Windows purchase. Click on Continue. You may need the Validation number from your original Windows XP disc.
7. If your system is not validated, use the Alternate Method instructions to validate. If you are validated you will be asked if you are ready to download. Answer “Yes” or “OK”.
8. If your system is not validated, Click “Other Method”, and wait for an answer.
9. If your Windows software was purchased and not pirated, a number will come up in a dialog box. Copy this with pencil and paper or type the number in the box.
10. Click on “Validate.”
11. When the validation is completed, look for the dark blue bar with a **Download** prompt and click on the word **Download**.
12. You will see a question, “Do you want to **run** or **save**?” Click on **Save**.
13. Next you have a prompt which asks you where you want the software to be saved. Click on the word, **Desktop**, and **OK**.

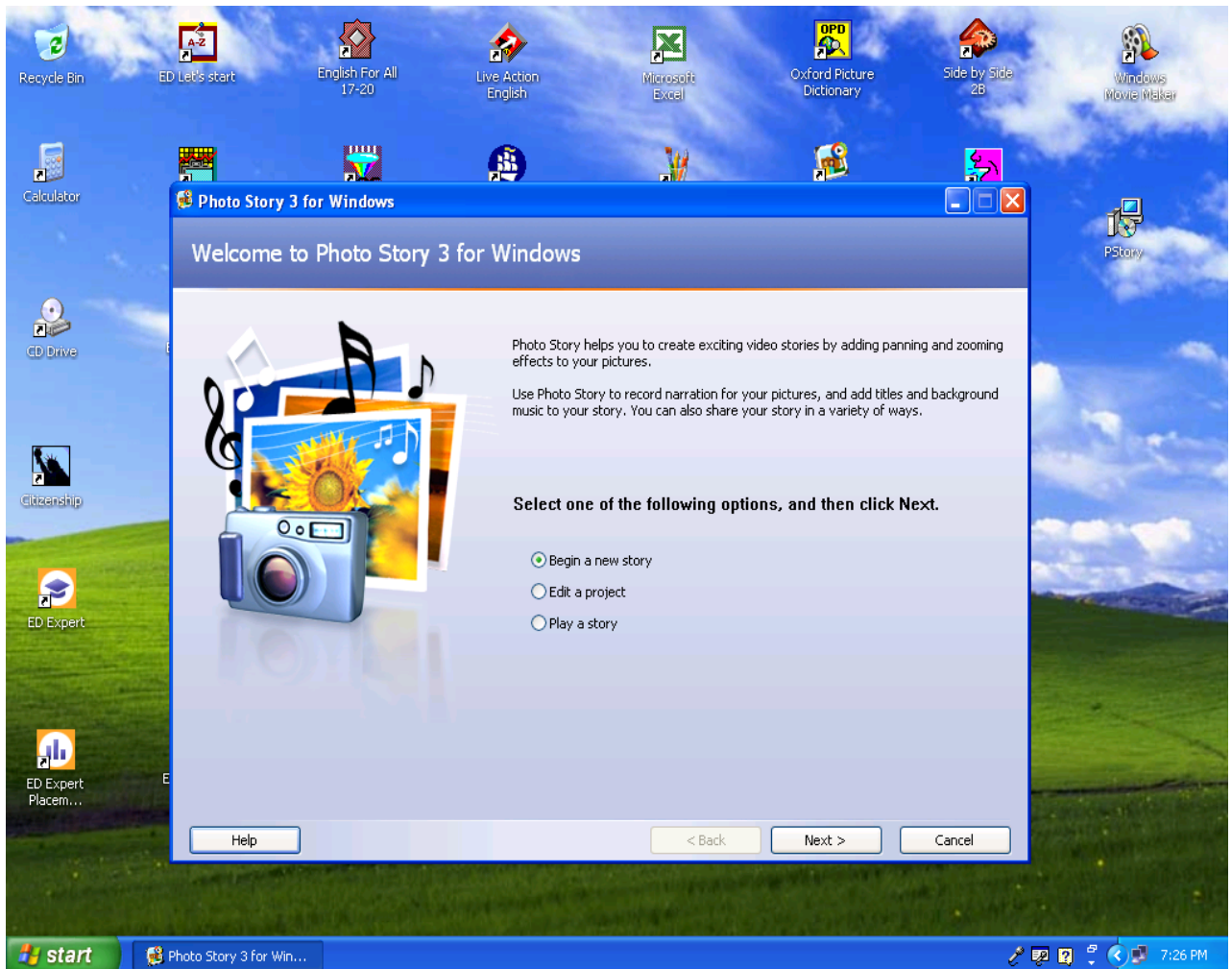
Photostory will now begin to download (be copied) to your PC. This will take a few minutes depending on the speed of your computer.
14. Close this dialog box when the download completes. Put a click on the small box.
15. Next click in the box called “Run” when you see three choices, **Run**, **Open Folder**, and **Close**.
16. Now wait a few seconds and you will see the “Welcome” screen for Photostory 3 for Windows.

PREPARATION STEPS

What to do before using the Software

1. Talk with the students about the project. Show them one or two samples of a finished Photostory. Suggest some ideas for topics. Make a schedule for a starting day and an ending day. Ask the students to start looking at home in photo albums for pictures to bring to school or start taking some pictures with a digital camera.
2. Make a new folder on the hard drive for your project or a new folder for each student if you have a class project going.
3. Name it “Field Trip” or whatever the projects will be about, or the Class time and semester.
4. Download the software to your computer; put the program icon on the “Desktop”. See the detailed steps above.
5. Collect a series of photographs or take digital photographs. You can use pictures taken with a digital camera, or jpg files already on the hard drive, or glossy photographs brought in from the students’ photo albums at home. Glossy photos will need to be scanned onto the PC hard drive and placed in your project folder.
6. Using glossy photos from home: scan the photographs and make a .jpg file for each one. If you don’t know how to use a scanner, contact Cherita by phone or email, or talk to a lab teacher from your school site. Name each picture or let the computer number them so you can find them when you put them into Photostory.

Welcome to Photostory 3 for Windows Choose a New Project, Edit or Play a Story



INSTRUCTIONS:

Here you will be asked if you wish to do a “New Project, “, or “Edit a Project,” or “Play a Story.”

New Project – a project you are just now starting

Edit – make changes/additions to an existing project.

Play – show a project that is already finished.

Click the circle for “New Project.”

NOTES:

Import your pictures into the PhotoStory software



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Make sure the photos you want to use are in a folder made especially for this project. Practice finding the folder so it will be easy to import (insert) the pictures you want to use.
2. Import (insert) each photo individually. As you import each photo it will appear along the bottom of the software screen. This is called the Storyboard. Do not arrange the pictures until all pictures are imported.
3. When you have imported all of the photos you want to use, click on **“Next.”**

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Arrange your pictures on the Storyboard



INSTRUCTIONS:

Look at the pictures on the storyboard at the bottom of the screen. You can change the order of the pictures by clicking on the mouse and holding your finger down. As you hold your finger down, move the picture to the spot you want it to appear in the video. Release your finger and the picture is in a new location.

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Narrate your pictures – add captions and motion



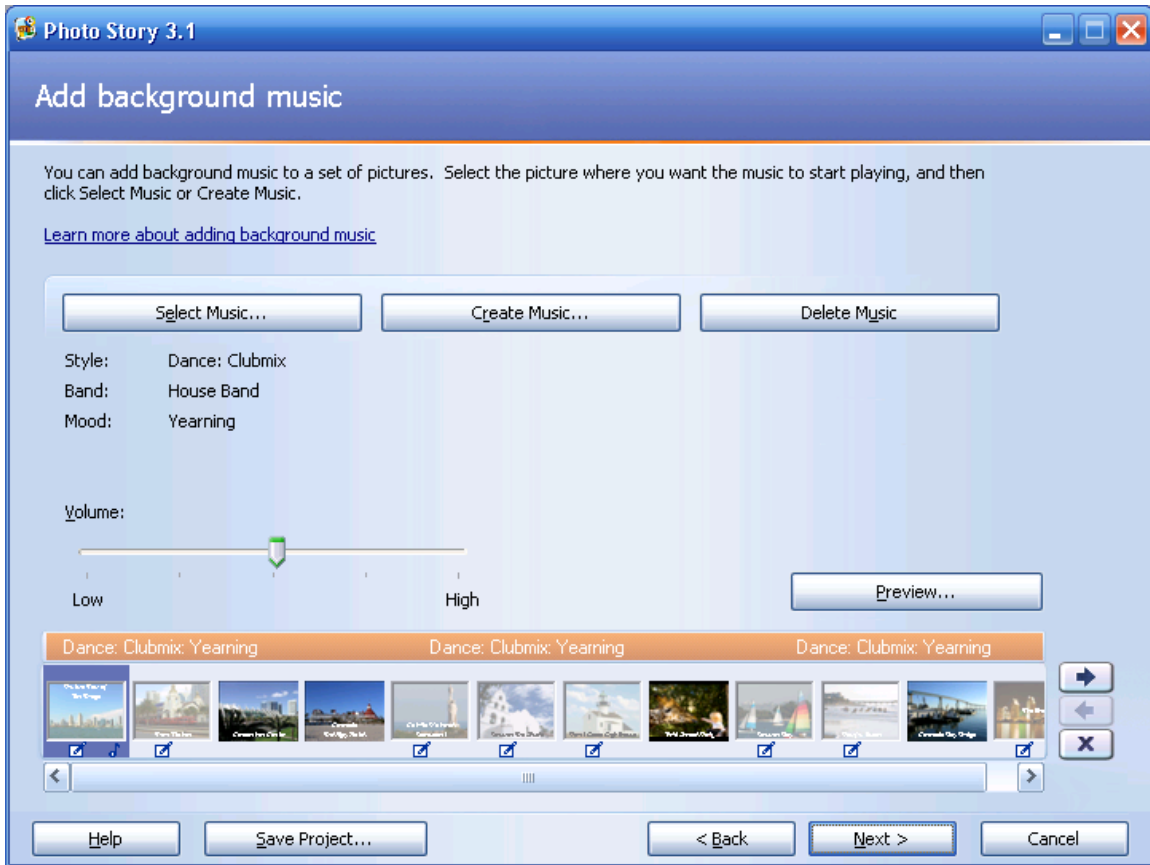
INSTRUCTIONS:

Once all your pictures are inserted and arranged, you can decide what titles (captions) to put on each one. If you want captions, type a few words (three or four words to each picture) in the box that starts “Type notes here. . .”) When the caption or title is in place you can change the size and location of the caption on the picture. Color , size and location for the caption can be changed, but the color usually stays the same on all slides.

Effects (motion) means how the slides come onto the screen. Effects can be selected also. You can choose top to bottom, bottom to top, sideways. Split, V-shaped.

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Add background music if desired.

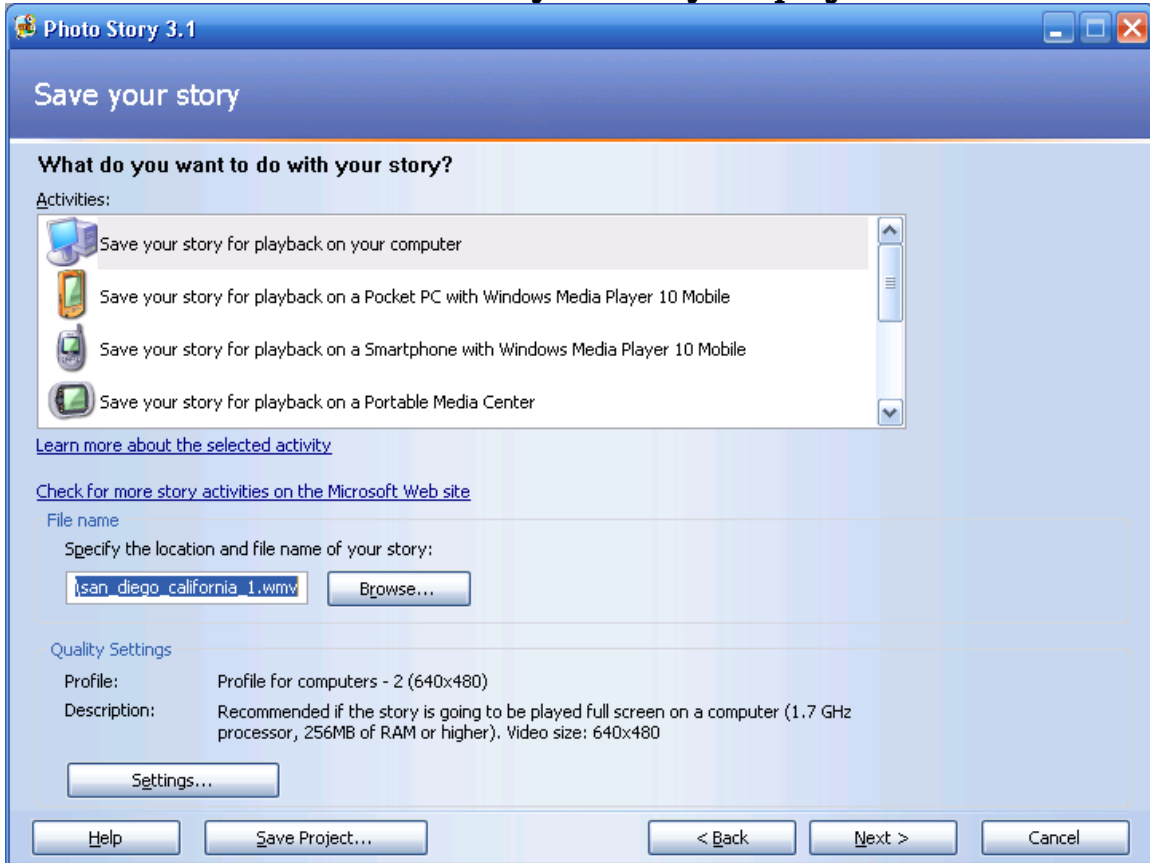


INSTRUCTIONS:

This screen gives you three choices: Select Music, Create Music, Delete Music. For your first Photostory project, you will probably want to choose, “Select Music.” Select music from a library of pre-recorded musical selections. As your skill increases, you may want to try creating and recording your own background music. After you choose the title of the music you want, choose “throughout the project” and the music will start on the first slide and end on the last.

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SAVE YOUR STORY; CHOOSE A DESTINATION Where will you save your project?



INSTRUCTIONS:

Activities: select “Playback on your computer” until you become familiar with the program.

File Name: The name of your project should appear under “File Name.” Click on Browse to select a folder to save the project. If you don’t have a location picked out yet, save to the “Desktop,” and you can give it a folder later.

Settings: Let the computer pick Quality Settings for you until you become an expert.

Click on “**Next**” and you will have an option to view the finished project. If you like the way the project looks, simply click on “**Save Project**” and your project is complete.

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Tips for Using PhotoStory 3 for Windows XP

Now your Photostory is complete. Here are a few pointers as you learn the process.

1. Limit your presentation to about 12-15 photos.
2. Select landscape photos when possible. (Sideways angle)
3. If you mix modern color photos with historical black and white ones, it's best to change the color photos to black and white.
4. Organize your photos in a logical order: earliest event to latest event, morning to night, start to finish, etc.
5. Don't make your audience seasick by panning too much or adding too many special effects.
6. Remember to start with an introductory title slide and finish with a final picture with the text "The End." Also have the students put their names, Room number and school name in smaller print under "The End"

Limitations of the software

1. Title slides must be made with an actual picture as the background. You cannot make a solid light blue background for your title frames.
2. Finding a text color that shows on all photos can be a problem.
3. One font color must be chosen for the whole production. You cannot change Font colors slide by slide.
4. Portrait photos (up and down shots) leave black strips on both sides of the slide.

HOW TO USE THE PHOTOSTORIES ONCE YOU HAVE CREATED THEM

As you can see, Photostories are fairly easy to put together, both for yourself and for your students. Once the Photostories are completed, there are some excellent follow-up activities from which you and your students can benefit. Several possibilities are given below and you will begin to think of other ways to use them on your own.

1. **Have a PhotoStory Class Fair** and ask each student to present his/her Photostory with a short verbal statement at the start and ask for questions when it is over.
2. **Give a writing assignment based on the content** of the photostories. The simplest assignment is to ask the students to write a summary of what the photostories are about.

Beginning Level – write one to three sentences.

Intermediate Level – write a paragraph of three to five sentences.

Advanced Level – write two paragraphs

Content can include:

- a. Exactly what the captions are about under each picture
- b. How the student prepared or got ready to do the photostory
 - 1) “Took pictures with my digital camera”
 - 2) “Looked through my photo albums at home to find pictures”
- c. Describe responses from members of their families as they were getting ready. For example, “Why do you need these pictures?” “Is this going to cost any money?” “Are you getting paid for this?” “When are you going to Hollywood with this?”

Ask the students to write a draft first, edit any errors, and then write a final copy. Compositions can be handwritten or typed on computers if you have access to computers. Be sure to put all compositions on the Bulletin Board after they are corrected.

3. **Put the Photostory into a website.** Instructions for this are on your browser index page. Find the section for uploading documents and follow the steps. Make a **.wmv** extension. Now the photostory will start playing from your website when you click on the **PLAY** button.

Glossary

Portrait style: A rectangle picture that is taller than it is wide. Commonly used in upright portraits of people.

Landscape style: A rectangle picture that is wider than it is tall. Commonly used in landscape pictures of open spaces like fields and city skylines.

JPEG: Stands for Joint Photographic Experts Group and is a type of image format that is used for photos posted on the Internet. The file extension is *.jpg*.

WMV: Stands for Windows Media Video and is a file format used for delivering digital video and audio. A free download from Microsoft will allow you to view media files that were saved with the extension *.wmv*.

Digital Photography: Electronic images captured with a digital camera. These images can be show on a computer screen.

Single Lens Reflex: A camera with one lens for both viewing and picture-taking. The image is reflected onto a viewing screen by a moveable mirror in the camera. The mirror flips out of the way just before the shutter opens, permitting light to strike the film.

Photo editing: The process of making changes to a photo in a photo editing program like Photo Shop. Changes can be made, for example, in size, cropping, tints, borders, etc.

Pixel: The tiny squares that make up a digital element. The more pixels the higher the resolution of the picture. The word *pixel* comes from the words 'pixel elements.'

Megapixels: One megapixel equals a million pixels. It is a measure commonly used to describe the image quality that a digital camera is capable of producing. An increase in megapixels equals an increase in the quality of a photo.

Glossy photo: A printed photo with a shiny surface.

Matte photo: A printed photo with a dull frosted surface that is not shiny.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

CHERITA STEVENS. Cherita Stevens has been an ESL Instructor at Garden Grove Adult Education for the last ten years. She is the Evening ESL Computer Lab teacher at Chapman Education Center in Garden Grove, California. Ms. Stevens has coordinated numerous photo essay projects with the ESL classroom teachers and their students. She has been interested in the impact of video productions on student writing for several years and has published an article on the topic. These projects have used Powerpoint, MovieMaker and PhotoStory 3 for Windows XP. Ms. Stevens has written curriculum for Garden Grove Adult Education as well as for other districts in the state.

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CHRISTINA NIVEN. Christina Niven is an ESL instructor at Garden Grove Adult Education.. She is also a Distance Learning curriculum developer and teacher. In addition Christina is an EL Civics curriculum writer. She has developed two EL Civics websites for teachers and students. Both of her websites, elcivics.com and tinkerbellchime.com, contain online presentations which Ms. Niven has created using PhotoStory 3. One of her websites, elcivics.com, has recently been chosen as a link by the U.S. Department of Education/Adult Education Division website. She will explain how she has posted a Photostory into her website.

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