Field Reporting



Mid-Valley STEM-CTE HUB

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Field Reporting

Capture stories wherever they happen! The Field Reporting/Vlogging Kit is designed for students to create engaging content on the go. Whether reporting from the field, vlogging, or documenting real-world experiences, this kit offers the portability, durability, and versatility needed to produce dynamic media projects anytime, anywhere.



Grade Level

Group Size

Time Duration

Content of Kits

Components

- GoPro Hero 8
- Micro SD card
- Tripod, mounts, and grips
- Carry case
- Media mod mic
- Light
- Monitor

6th - 12th grades

1 to 4 students

60 minutes - multiple sessions

- Mirco-USB cable
- Extra batteries and charger

Software

• Kapwing and Canva both have free options available that allow users to edit video files.



Usage

Getting Started

- 1. Before use, ensure the SD card is inserted and the battery is fully charged. Attach any desired accessories.
- 2. Review the GoPro Hero 8 and media mod components, including the camera, microphone, and mounts
- 3. Power on the GoPro, select video settings (resolution, frame rate, etc.), and adjust audio settings if using the media mod microphone.

- 4. Perform a short test recording to check video quality, audio levels, and stability. Make necessary adjustments.
- 5. Identify your filming location, ensure the GoPro is securely mounted or handheld, and consider environmental factors like lighting and background noise.
- 6. Reminder: Transfer the files captured onto your computer before clearing the SD card and returning the kit to the Educators' Lending Library.

Storage

Return all components to the provided storage container when not in use. Disassemble the camera and accessories, and return the camera to its hard case between uses. Ensure the camera and accessories are clean and dry before storage.

Troubleshooting

- **Camera Not Turning On:** Ensure the battery is charged and properly inserted. Hold the power button for 10 seconds to reset.
- **No Audio:** Check if the media mod microphone is securely connected and ensure audio settings are correctly configured.
- **Poor Video Quality:** Verify that the camera resolution and frame rate match your project needs, and clean the lens to remove any obstructions.
- **SD Card Error:** Make sure the SD card is properly inserted and formatted; try using a different card if the issue persists.
- **Unresponsive Buttons:** Perform a soft reset by turning off the camera and removing the battery for a minute before powering it back on.



Activity Guide

Beginner

Intro to Field Reporting

Use the GoPro Hero 8 to film a simple "report" about a STEAM topic. Practice using the camera to record steady video, adjusting settings for clarity, and using the media mods to capture clear audio and video. This activity introduces basic field reporting skills like framing, sound quality, and basic video editing to create a short and informative piece.

Intermediate

Environmental Observation Project

Students can film a short environmental documentary, such as observing local wildlife or documenting changes in a water source over time. They will practice managing video components within the camera and editing their footage to create a more polished, informative video about the environmental topic they chose.

Advanced

STEM News Report

Create a full-length news-style report on a real-world STEM issue, such as climate change, renewable energy, or a scientific discovery. They will plan the story, conduct interviews, gather B-roll footage, and high-quality sound. Students may also use advanced editing techniques to integrate visuals, graphics, and voiceovers, creating a professional-level field report that communicates complex STEAM content effectively.

Extension Activities:

Citizen Science Video Contributions

Partner with a citizen science initiative to document local wildlife or environmental changes. Contribute footage to online platforms. They'll record high-quality videos of animal behaviors, plant growth, or weather patterns and contribute their footage to online citizen science platforms. This project extends STEAM learning by engaging students in real-world data collection, fostering collaboration, and showing how their work can contribute to global scientific research.

STEAM Career Spotlight Video

As an extension of the documentary project, students can create short interview-based videos highlighting STEM professionals in their community. They will film interviews with engineers, scientists, or technicians, capturing insights into their work, challenges, and career paths. This activity deepens students' understanding of STEAM applications in the real world, improves communication skills, and inspires future career exploration.

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Learning Extensions

STEAM Connections: Journalism - Technology - Science

Learning Objectives:

- Develop key technical and creative skills in video production and STEM communication using the Field Reporting STEAM kit with the GoPro Hero 8.
- Learn to operate and focus on camera settings, framing, and managing audio.
- Improve storytelling abilities through planning, scripting, and filming.
- Capture high-quality video in various environments while troubleshooting issues like lighting and noise.
- Gain digital literacy by editing footage and incorporating graphics and audio to create professional reports that effectively communicate STEM concepts.

Career Connections:

- Field Reporter Capture real-time stories for news stations, online platforms, and documentary productions.
- Video Editor Edit raw footage into polished, engaging content for broadcast, online platforms, or social media.
- **Broadcast Journalist** Report on current events, providing clear and concise information for news outlets.
- Environmental Science Communicator Document and report on environmental changes for research, public awareness, or activism.

Essential Employability Skills:

- Communication
- Adaptability
- Time management
- Planning
- Organization
- Teamwork
- Problem-solving
- Technology literacy





Resources and Accessibility

Safety Guidelines

- **Stabilize the Camera:** Use a tripod or grip to prevent falls and avoid placing the camera on unstable surfaces.
- Environmental Awareness: Be mindful of surroundings and avoid tripping or falling hazards.
- **Prioritize Ergonomics:** Use proper posture and take breaks to prevent strain during handheld filming.
- **Practice Electronics Safety:** Use recommended batteries, avoid filming while charging, and handle equipment properly to prevent overheating or damage

<u>Accessibility</u>

Library Catalog



Library Resources



Adaptive Mounting: Included are various adjustable mounts or mounts that can

- adjustable mounts or mounts that can be easily attached to various surfaces or other personal devices for students with mobility challenges.
- Visual Aids: For students with visual impairments, use audio cues or provide a sighted assistant to help set up and navigate the camera's functions.
- **Collaborative Work:** Pair students with and without accessibility needs to foster teamwork, allowing everyone to participate in different aspects of the project (filming, analyzing footage, etc.).

Feedback

QR to feedback survey

