

Digital Story Technology: Top Tips!



This is a brief guide of some of the technology you might use to create your 'I feel...' Digital Story. You might choose to use just one type of technology to create your video, or you might choose to use different types of equipment to capture different video clips. **This guide will give you an overview of what each type of equipment will do and some top tips to get the most out of the recording.**

1. Wear-cam



- The wear-cams clip onto your clothes or are worn around the neck. They can be useful for **recording your point of view**.
- This is a good way to show your **personal experience** of school.
- Some people don't like to wear the camera. Instead, you can also ask a friend if they could wear the camera while you are with them.
- This is a nice way for you to record how you like to interact with others and **what you see** when you're at school.
- The picture can be wobbly if you are moving around. They are good for videos when you are still, or if you **hold it still** while you are walking.

2. 360-degree video camera



- These cameras capture 360-degree video. You can **record yourself as well as showing what you see** at the same.
- There is a handy selfie stick, which you can use to record yourself in different spaces.
- This can be a good way to **show your reactions** (e.g., facial expressions) to different spaces or activities at school.
- You can also use this as a **regular video camera with the flat lens**.
- The flat lens is useful if you wish to record yourself talking or reading out your 'I feel...' statements or if you want to record a long activity.

360 camera audio - There is a small microphone to attach to the 360 camera, this will give you a better sound quality.

3. Spy-cam



- These are small cameras that you can **place somewhere in the room** while you do something else.
- The cameras are not for spying, others should be aware you are recording and give their permission.
- This can be useful if you don't want to perform to a camera but want to **show yourself during a lesson, or activity**.
- You will be able to pick out small clips that help you show how you feel and what you do to help you stay or get back to the green zone.

4. A mobile device



- You might choose to use a **mobile device** (e.g., an iPad or tablet) for some of the videos.
- You should only use your own phone **in line with the school's rules** about using mobile phones or if you get permission first.
- Remember to avoid capturing other people's faces.
- Make sure you **turn the device to landscape**. This will get the best picture.

Some general points before you start:

1. **Avoid others' faces:** If you can, try to avoid filming other people's faces. If you need someone in the clip, make sure you check whether they are happy to be filmed. We can help you get permission of students that appear in the background of your videos, or we can help you to edit the films, so their faces aren't visible.
2. **Safety:** Be careful when you are filming, look where you are going and if you need to walk backwards, you can work in pairs. Protect the equipment (e.g., make sure the tripod won't wobble and use an umbrella if you are outside in the rain).
3. **Make sure there is space on your SD card**
4. **Double check that the camera is recording!**
5. You will take lots of video and will cut each clip down to 5-10 seconds! **Record shorter clips, rather than leaving the camera running.** This will make editing and uploading much easier.

Tips for recording interesting videos!

- **Different angles** add interest – a camera placed close or far away during an activity, selfies to capture your reactions as well as the environment, a camera following someone or walking through a space.
- You can **use photos** and use the span feature or montage for things you can't film (e.g., thoughts about something at home).
- You can **'show then tell'** – use text or narration to explain the video clip e.g., a close-up clip of you using a fidget toy and text or voice over: 'I use fidget toys in Maths to help me stay green'.
- Remember to take videos where you can **use Just Right to explain** how you feel.
- You might want to **record sound separately**. This is good if you want something loud or to focus on one sound that is loud for you e.g., typing or the noise of a generator.

Have fun!