

CHALLENGE: Image and Text

Create Your Own Alphabet

For this project, I was inspired by Wendy Ewald's series "American Alphabets". In this series Wendy talks about how the first images she saw were next to letters in an alphabet book. She wanted to create an alphabet that had meaningful words to the students she was working with. As their alphabet images came together it became a cultural self portrait of the community of students she was teaching.

MATERIALS

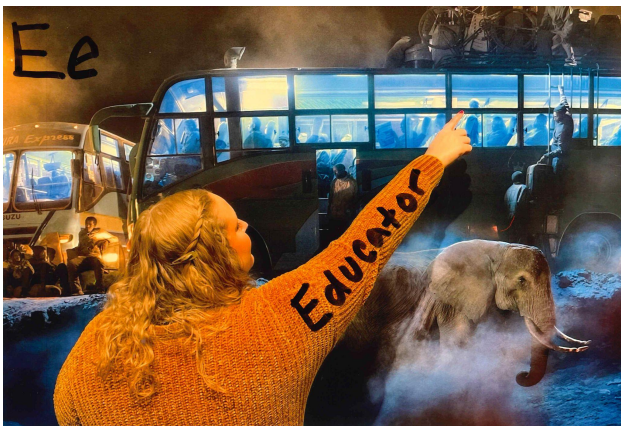
A device to take pictures with (Camera, smart phone, or tablet)

Printed photos

Black Sharpie

*Optional - Photoshop or editing app

EXAMPLES



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STEPS

Prep

- Think about words that are important to you and your school, community, or family
- Make a brainstorm list A-Z and write down any and all ideas
- The more words you have the more options you have for photos

Shoot

- Go to a space that represents your brainstorm words
- Pick a letter and word you are inspired by
- Think of poses or objects you might use to help convey the work
- Remember to leave room to add your word and letter

- Print out your photo
- With a sharpie, add a capital and lowercase letter in one corner, and your word in another corner or empty space
- Arrange your images in alphabetical order
- Scan or photograph your images for a digital copy

Tips

- We used all horizontal images to create a cohesive alphabet
- Don't worry about completing the alphabet! Start small and you can always add to it
- Make sure the sharpie dries completely before handling the image
- If you don't have a printer, you can always add your letter and word on photoshop or another editing app
- Check your spelling before you use a sharpie!

SHARE

Upload your photos and tag MOPA on Instagram @MOPASD