

AUGUST 2020



365 *Picture Today*

365 Picture Today!

And just like that, summer is coming to an end and for many, a new school year is upon us. Though this timeline is familiar, that is about all that feels the same right now. Classrooms are different. Work environments are different. Daily routines are different. Perhaps we are now beginning to accept these changes as our new normal. And maybe we are still struggling. In all of the things that have changed in the last five months or so, one thing that has remained constant and unchanged is the 365 Picture Today community.

Meetings with family, friends, and book groups have moved to virtual gatherings and it feels a little strange. With our community here at 365 Picture Today, most of us only know one another online through either Facebook or Instagram. Because that is our normal, it feels “right.” We have already learned how to care for and support one another on these virtual platforms.

Do you feel the rhythm of this community? Do you know who posts early in the day? Who posts at the eleventh hour? Do you look at a photo and know whose it is before reading the name or its accompanying description? Do you recognize peoples’ homes, pets, children, or grandchildren? Do you have an idea which prompts will appeal to which people? Do you notice when someone doesn’t post for several days? If you answered yes to these questions, then you know what it means to be a part of this amazing community.

Photography is what drew us together initially, but it is much more than that that keeps us coming back. Some of us have shared this daily photo journey for eight years, welcoming many new friends along the way. We have shared births, deaths, marriages, divorces, babies, grand babies, graduations, and everything in between. Sharing daily glimpses into our everyday lives requires trust. This kind of trust is the hallmark of a strong community.

365 Picture Today is a strong community. We do care deeply about the well-being of one another. Know that your absence is felt when you miss posting for a few days or weeks or even months. Know that we are here to share your struggle and your joys. Know that we are your friends.

As we all do our best to navigate these unfamiliar and scary times, join us in giving thanks for this community and the safety and normalcy that it provides for each of us.

Amy, Garnett, Kris and Lee



AUGUST 1

International Mahjong Day

On August 1st, International Mahjong Day deals out a game to get the celebration started! Play your tiles well and perhaps you'll honour the day with a win.

The game is played a lot like rummy. The tiles are so tactile. I have a set and used to play it a lot with my parents and my siblings when we were growing up.

Mahjong starts with a wall of tiles and then you cut into the wall and each take some tiles. You then play like rummy to get your hand out.

You have simple tiles: dots, bamboo and characters. honour tiles: winds and dragons. bonus tiles: flowers and seasons, usually about 144 tiles altogether, depends on the region from which you learnt the game.

No Mahjong set, then take a photo of some dots, bamboo, characters, winds, dragons, flowers or seasons that present themselves to you during your day.

Lee



AUGUST 2
Coloring Book Day

It's no surprise that there is increased popularity of adult coloring books, with some even popping up on the bestseller lists. Adults have found there are countless health benefits that come from coloring; it improves focus, reduces stress and helps fine tune motor skills just to name a few.

My favorite thing about coloring is you don't have to be an artist to color!

Pull out your crayons, colored pencils and markers! Pick a page and color it however you like ~ there's no wrong way! Inside the lines or out just make sure to relax and have some creative fun!

The National Day Calendar offers an official coloring page download on their website if you want to check it out!

Amy



AUGUST 3
Watermelon Day
BLACK & WHITE

Nothing says summertime more than Watermelon! Since it is primarily water it makes for a refreshing treat on a hot day!

Today is also Black and White Day. Even if you aren't a fan of black and white photography, giving it a try just once a month can help you to see your subjects in a new and more creative way.

Consider photographing the textures and patterns of the watermelon. The outside skin has that unique stripy pattern, while the inside can appear to have polka dots from the seeds scattered throughout.

Not a fan of watermelon? No worries. Look for unique textures and patterns as you go through your day and share what you find.

Fun Fact: The Guinness Book of World Records recorded the heaviest watermelon at 262 pounds! Now that would be quite the summertime treat!

Amy



AUGUST 4
Chocolate Chip Day

Chocolate chip cookies are the most popular variety of cookie in America! A favorite treat for all ages; but, without their famous woman inventor Ruth Wakefield, the world might never have tasted those sweet delights.

The Happy Accident that is the Chocolate Chip Cookie

In 1930, Ruth Wakefield was mixing a batch of cookies for her roadside inn when she discovered she was out of baker's chocolate. She substituted broken pieces of Nestle's semi-sweet chocolate, expecting it to melt and absorb into the dough to create chocolate cookies. That didn't happen, but the surprising result helped to make Ruth Wakefield one of the 20th century's most famous women inventors. When she removed the pan from the oven, she realized that she had accidentally invented "chocolate chip cookies which were later known as Toll House Cookies!

Whether your cookies are homemade or storebought, pour a glass of milk and enjoy the accidental invention that is the Chocolate Chip Cookie!

Amy



AUGUST 5
Work Like A Dog

Have you heard the saying “Work like a Dog” to describe a hard day's work?

It seems like a funny saying to me! I guess because the dogs we've had over the years never really worked “too hard.” If anything, it was the complete opposite!

However in the spirit of the day, you are encouraged to show off what you've been working hard on!

Due to Covid-19 and the closure of our local farmers market, we decided to grow our own tomatoes this summer! Let me tell you, creating a garden plot from scratch is hard work, but we are looking forward to the reward of BLT's for dinner very soon!

Amy



AUGUST 6
Simplify Your Life

The first week of August is dedicated to simplifying your life, taking care of your environment, and eliminating the causes of stress and anxiety. Living simply means something different to everyone. It can mean decluttering and organizing for one person or slowing down and relaxing for another.

We are going to give the day a photography twist and simplify the prompt by photographing a single subject.

There are a variety of photography styles and techniques that encourage simplicity. Keeping your image light and bright with High Key or the Minimalist approach that leaves room in your image for the subject to shine or zooming in on a single aspect with Macro.

Remember Less is More today!

Amy



AUGUST 7
Wiggle Your Toes Day
SELF PORTRAIT

Today is all about your toes...and where your wiggling them!

Are they in the grass? On the sand at the beach? Lounging on the sofa? Dangling over the side of the pool? Taking a hike? Or, maybe they are getting the spa treatment. Where are your toes?

Remember it's selfie day!

Amy



AUGUST 8

Happiness Happens Day

Today is about Happiness and the fact that it does happen everyday. This day is to encourage us to recognize the moments that cause glee, delight, and pleasure both big and small. Don't let them pass unnoticed.

Let the moments that bring you happiness dictate your photo. Maybe it's the delight of that first cup of coffee in the morning, the pleasure of watching the birds fluttering around outside your window, or when you spot some new blooms on your walk.

What happiness happened in your world today?

Amy



AUGUST 9

Book Lovers Day

Happy National Book Lover's Day! I am definitely a lover of books! I normally have 2-3 books going at a time. I listen to audiobooks every day, read books on my kindle at night, and read my Bible and supplemental studies with "real" books.

Let's have fun arranging our books today. Can you make something abstract? Leading Lines? Stacks? Selective focus? Selective color? Get creative with your library! Show us the titles, or keep them a mystery. Place them in an unusual setting. The possibilities are as endless as the books we have available to us!

Happy Reading!

Garnett



AUGUST 10

S'mores Day GUEST PROMPT

Yay, it's a food prompt... but wait, it's not just any food prompt, this one is sweeter than ever because it's National S'mores Day. Hip-Hip Hooray for the Girl Scouts! They were not the first to make S'mores, however, they were the first to record their recipe back in 1927. The recipe was published in "Tramping and Trailing with the Girl Scouts." Now, that sounds like a great publication! Being an Assistant Leader myself, how could I turn this prompt down? Perhaps there are other leaders and/or scouts among our group who can share their scouting s'more stories with us.

So, what is it going to be...traditional? Or, are you going to really shake it up a bit and try something new and different? Not a S'mores fan? That is perfectly OK. It is your 365 so shoot what you love, perhaps you will consider doing a "S'mores" Sepia edit, that could be fun too.

And here's a little fact that might surprise you...

I've never had a campfire S'mores! Say What?

Tina Fowler



AUGUST 11

Son's and Daughter's Day

National Son's and Daughter's Day brings parents and their children together for quality time.

Today is the day you can show us your kids, grandkids, dogs, cats or anyone (or thing) that you love.

If you don't have your family close by, you can photograph something that represents them or your feelings about them.

If your children/grandchildren/pets are around today, this is a great time to practice posing. Try to capture emotion or personality. Here are some ways to do that:

- candid photos where everyone is interacting
- capture them engaging in an activity and unaware of the camera
- focus on the eyes
- have your subject look slightly away from the camera
- give them something to do with their hands (hold something, hug something, touch something)
- make them laugh
- use the three photo trick (show me a scary face; show me a silly face; show me a happy face) Bam! Happy face it is!

The most important thing is not the pose, it's capturing the natural essence of the subject. Have fun!

Garnett

website: 365picturetoday.com



AUGUST 12

Vinyl Record Day

Everything old is new again... and that seems to be true! Who would have thought when we traded in our vinyl for cd's that vinyl would make a comeback? I still have many of my LP's, but I have given them away to the kids and grandkids as well.

Do you still have vinyl? If not, how about cd's? Cassettes? 8-tracks?

If none of the above, what is the current way you listen to tunes? Phone? I-Pod? Echo?

Try using interesting crops today to highlight your subject. You can highlight the player, the label, the grooves... give us just a peek.

Garnett

instagram: [365picturetoday](https://www.instagram.com/365picturetoday)



AUGUST 13

Prosecco Day

According to the National Day Calendar, Prosecco Day represents a time to raise a toast to the remaining days of the summer. As we enjoy the warmth of the summer season, this day encourages us to embrace life's everyday celebrations. We have had a year where many celebrations have been postponed or cancelled. This prompt is a great reminder to celebrate the day that is in front of you because you don't know what tomorrow holds.

Let's have fun capturing bubbles today. It can be bubbles in your drink; you can play with fizzy fruit bubbles; capture the bubbles in your tub or in your sink, or you can blow bubbles....

Let's celebrate and create a little fun in the process!

Garnett

[#365picturetoday](https://www.instagram.com/365picturetoday)



AUGUST 14
Creamsicle Day

I know! I know! You are sick of food prompts. You are also sick of ice cream prompts.

But it's creamsicle day! Let's embrace it.

You can approach the prompt in several ways. You can photograph an actual creamsicle (or your favorite ice cream). Or... You can look for things that are different on the inside than they are on the outside. A creamsicle is orangey goodness on the outside, but yummy and creamy vanilla on the inside.

What can you photograph that is a surprise? An egg that has a hard exterior and soft interior? A seashell... that still has a critter living in it? My example photo is a shaved ice... that has ice cream stuffed in the middle! YUM!

Get the idea?

Garnett



AUGUST 15
Relaxation Day
PICTURE YOUR DAY

Relaxation Day! Now there's a day I can get behind! Today is also Picture Your Day where you put yourself in the photo.

How do you like to relax? Napping? Reading? Watching TV? Lying on the Beach? Watching the sunset?

I like to float... and read. I am very thankful that I have this pool. I don't like getting in the water at the beach because I want to know what is in there with me! I don't like community pools because of germs. I wanted a pool when we built our home but my hubby said there were too many trees. After Hurricane Isabel took ten of our trees back in 2013, I convinced my hubby that it was a sign for me to get my pool. LOL. I use it more than anyone... even the grandkids. It is my happy place.

What are you doing to relax today? Make sure you put yourself in the photo.

I have a feeling that our gallery is going to be a happy place today!

Garnett



AUGUST 16
Tell A Joke Day

Are you a joke teller? A practical joke player? Or, the brunt of other peoples' jokes? Wherever your place, celebrate it because it is National Joke Telling Day. The goal for today is to smile and laugh. We all know that doing so is good medicine, especially during these difficult days.

Photographing a joke may be challenging. I had to rely on words in my photo. If you are up to the challenge, show us your creativity by photographing your interpretation of a joke. And, if not, take today to capture some smiles and laughter. Whichever approach you take, make sure that you do it with a smile on YOUR face.

Kris



AUGUST 17
Thrift Store Day
MACRO MONDAY

I am not a thrift store shopper, but I know that many are. I am often amazed by the cool things that they find, but I don't have the patience to work my way through all the so-so stuff to find the treasure. I do, however, enjoy visiting open air markets whenever I have the opportunity. I found this set of Winnie the Pooh character nesting dolls in Anchorage, AK, at such a market.

Today is also Macro Monday.

My husband is a big fan of Piglet and his approach to life. Lucky for me, Piglet is the tiniest piece of this set, so a perfect subject for capturing the small details of my shopping find. In your photo today, get close and capture the small details of a thrift store, or other shopping, find. It is often these tiny features that first catch our attention, drawing us in to then look at the "big picture."

Kris



AUGUST 18
Mail Order Catalog Day

I think we get every mail order catalog that is printed! Some go straight to the recycle bin without ever being opened, but there are some that are fun to skim through, even when I have no intention of buying anything. Thumbing through catalogs looking at stuff I don't need feels far less tedious than perusing the shelves and racks at a thrift store! Just as with thrift store shopping, though, searching mail order catalogs often yields that same kind of unexpected treasure.

Do you have something that you love that came from a mail order catalog? If so, share it with us. Or maybe, you too have a mailbox full of catalogs that are destined for the recycle bin.

Kris



AUGUST 19
World Photo Day

With just one photo, share your world with the world.

Kris



AUGUST 20
Chocolate Pecan Pie Day

Chocolate, pecans, and pie...what's not to love? This is one of my favorite pie recipes, though I recognize this may not be so for everyone. Maybe you just like chocolate? Or maybe just pecans? Or, maybe you just like pie. Whatever your preference, photograph it today.

Kris



AUGUST 21
Senior Citizens Day

I had to do a little research to determine what is meant by "senior citizen." Though there is no magic number that makes one a senior citizen, those 60 and above are generally thought to be in this category. Today is the day to honor those "older" members of society.

From the National Day Calendar:

"Their wealth of knowledge, skill, and experience offer so much to the next generation. As technologies advance, these are the people who've experienced each step of change. Not only have they contributed to it, but they understand first hand the benefits and the drawbacks. They know life without the advancements that exist today."

Today, photograph your favorite senior citizen, or a way that your community is helping to honor and care for this particular segment of its population.

Kris



AUGUST 22
Be An Angel Day

Most of us will reach out and help someone in real need without thinking twice. To the one on the receiving end of our actions, we may be seen as their angel. Let's face it, what the world needs right now is more kindness, any kind of kindness. That kindness can come in many forms.

The cute little guy in this photo was knitted for me by a special friend. Yes, I knit. That makes him all the more special because I know what it took to make him. He was an unexpected gift. It wasn't my birthday or any other special occasion. I received him as part of a genuine, and much needed at the time, act of kindness. He now occupies a place of honor in my office at school.

Has someone been a special angel in your life? Or, maybe you'll be an angel in someone else's life today. Either way, show us what an angel looks like to you.

Kris



AUGUST 23

Ride The Wind Day COLOR DAY - BLUE

The MacCready Gossamer Condor was the first human-powered aircraft capable of controlled and sustained flight; it flew on August 23rd of 1977.

We are encouraged today to ride the wind. Now, how to do that?

Having a husband who is an avid windsurfer, I have a lot of images in my photo albums of all the great windsurfers that perform for you whilst you are sitting on the beach. But, I will be struggling for a windsurfing photo today.

No windsurfers or gliders to show how windy it is today (maybe it isn't)? Why not try to take a photo of a child's hand-held windmill in motion, a line full of washing blowing in the breeze, or some smoke from a fire, to give you a few ideas.

Show us how you think a photo shows wind.

Lee



AUGUST 24

International Strange Music Day

International Strange Music Day on August 24th encourages people to listen to a type of music they don't usually listen to. It's also a day to discover strange and bizarre kinds of music.

Studies prove that different genres of music affect the mind and body in different ways. For instance, smooth jazz is known to relax the body. Pop music helps to improve endurance. Metal music provides a stronger sense of identity. Of all the types of music, classical has the most positive effects. Classical music fights depression, sparks creativity, relieves pain, and supercharges brainpower. However, one study showed hip hop improved the flavour of cheese.

Take a photo of just a part of a musical instrument. Try different angles. Most things make a noise so try the wooden spoon with the saucepan or a couple of spoons.

Show us the music that you have been listening to, today.

Lee



AUGUST 25

Secondhand Wardrobe Day

Wow a day for secondhand clothes, who knew. At the beginning of this year, I stated that I wasn't going to buy any new clothes for a whole year. This has actually been easy to do, as for three months the shops were closed.

I donate all old clothes to charity shops and I also love a good rummage in the secondhand charity shops - not just for clothes, but also books, china and furniture. You never know what you are going to find.

Do you have some clothes to donate, or maybe that you have been clothes shopping recently. Show us your bargains. No bargains? Show us your favourite clothes.

To make it interesting try and take the photo on the angle using thirds to draw the eye over the clothes.

Lee



AUGUST 26
Dog Day

National Dog Day encourages dog ownership of all breeds. Today you are encouraged to take your dog for a walk, or your neighbours dog, or even volunteer at a shelter.

Ha ha, well every day in my house is dog day and Jasper is definitely one of the family, and as my kids say the most spoilt member of the family!

Jasper here is enjoying the sand dunes in the Netherlands.

No dog not to worry, take a photo of any animal that you come across today.

Lee



AUGUST 27
Just Because Day

Just Because Day offers up an opportunity to do stuff...just because. Feel free to celebrate this day any way you choose. Just because!

I took this photo at the Eden Project in Cornwall, UK last year on my holiday. Blue (Infinity Blue) is an immersive, 20-tonne installation that pays homage to cyanobacteria, one of the world's smallest living beings in the invisible world section. It breathes out vapour in smoke rings, it is so cool!

What will you be doing today, just because?

Lee



AUGUST 28
Cherry Turnover Day

Cherry turnovers are a pastry made by placing a cherry filling on a piece of dough. The dough is folded over and sealed. Then, the individual turnovers are baked or deep-fried for a golden and flaky crust. Tart cherries make the best pies. Since they need added sugar to be palatable, their juices meld with the sugar when baking. The results are tasty perfection!

Right now, I don't have any cherry turnovers on hand; so, I decided to honour the cherry turnover with a photo of a couple of cherries.

Fruit at this time of year is in abundance. What is your favourite fruit for baking?

Lee



AUGUST 29

According to Hoyle Day PHONE

"According to Hoyle," it's like saying, "according to the accepted standards."

According to Hoyle Day encourages individuals to honour the rules and regulations in particular situations. It's also a day to pay tribute to a man by the name of Edmond Hoyle, an Englishman who was thought to be the first technical writer on card games.

Hoyle was born in 1672. At the age of 69, he began teaching a card game called Whist to wealthy high-society members in London. Whist is a game that is played by two teams of two players and requires logical skills, along with skills in mathematics. The card game was especially popular in the 18th and 19th centuries. Many people all over the world still play Whist.

We are encouraged to play games today according to Hoyle!

What is your favourite game to play? Show us in your photo today.

Lee



AUGUST 30

Beach Day

Today we celebrate our beautiful beaches and encourage their clean up.

I can't think of anything more relaxing than a day at the beach. Make time for some fun in the sun today at a lake, a river, or the ocean. Once there, consider spending a little time helping to clean up. This will not only make the beaches prettier, but also safer for animals and humans alike. Every year thousands of people across the country participate in Beach Day Clean Up events. There may even be one near you!

If you're landlocked or no time for the beach that's ok ~ you can still have that relaxing feeling! Read a book, lounge in the sun, have a picnic, enjoy a refreshing treat or listen to the Beach Boys.

Did you get to Relax or Clean up? Show us what your day looked like!

Amy



AUGUST 31

Matchmaker Day

Matchmaker Day honors the romantics of the world as they are always on the hunt for love and happiness for others!

Today instead of us playing Cupid, we are going on the hunt for love in the shape of the Heart. There are hearts all around us and you might just be surprised were you spot one. It will be like getting struck by one of Cupid's lucky arrows!

I can't wait to see the Hearts found today!

Amy

365 Picture Today

AUGUST PROMPTS

- 1 International Mahjong Day
- 2 Coloring Book Day
- 3 **B&W** - Watermelon Day
- 4 Chocolate Chip Day
- 5 Work Like A Dog
- 6 Simplify Your Life
- 7 **Self Portrait** - Wiggle Your Toes Day
- 8 Happiness Happens Day
- 9 Book Lovers Day
- 10 **Guest Prompt** -
- 11 Son's and Daughter's Day
- 12 Vinyl Record Day
- 13 Prosecco Day
- 14 Creamsicle Day
- 15 **Picture Your Today** - Relaxation Day
- 16 Tell A Joke Day
- 17 **Macro Monday** - Thrift Store Day
- 18 Mail Order Catalog Day
- 19 World Photo Day
- 20 Chocolate Pecan Pie Day
- 21 Senior Citizens Day
- 22 Be An Angel Day
- 23 **Color Blue** - Ride The Wind Day
- 24 International Strange Music Day
- 25 Secondhand Wardrobe Day
- 26 Dog Day
- 27 Just Because Day
- 28 Cherry Turnover Day
- 29 **Phone** - According to Hoyle Day
- 30 Beach Day
- 31 Matchmaker Day

365 Picture Today

THANK YOU FOR BEING YOU!

Your own unique, creative style.... YOU have one!

Have you ever looked at someone's photo and thought "why don't my photos look like that?"

Have you ever taken a scenic photo and compared it to others on-line and wondered why your composition was different?

That's a good thing! That means you are an individual with your own unique way of seeing the world.

What I see isn't the same thing as what you see. What you see isn't the same thing as another person sees.

It's similar to looking at a word search puzzle. The words that jump out to you are not always the same as the words that jump out to others.

Don't let it discourage you! Embrace it! The world needs you and the way you see things.

There are thousands upon thousands of photographers, and we all have our own perspectives, styles and creative techniques.

Look back at the photos you have taken this year and see if you can see a pattern or creative style?

**Thank you for being you!
Thank you for sharing yourself with us!
We are so glad you are here.**

PHOTOGRAPHY TIP OF THE MONTH

DON'T BE AFRAID TO MAKE MISTAKES...

...and don't be afraid to learn from them. The more mistakes you make, the faster you'll improve. Once you see what went wrong, it's often easier to make it right the next time.

365 Picture Today TEAM



AMY

contact: amy@365picturetoday.com

My favorite photography gadget would be my Peak camera strap. I know your probably thinking thats not really a gadget but I've used it as a tripod substitute countless times. The strap is super durable and easy to adjust so I'm able to hang or attach my camera to almost anything.



GARNETT

contact: garnett@365picturetoday.com

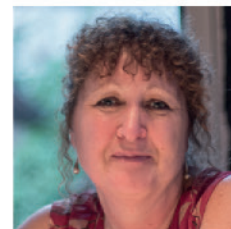
My favorite photography gadget is a reflector. I have a large one I use for still life photography and I have a small portable one I can use when I'm doing photo sessions. It really is amazing at directing the light where I want it.



KRIS

contact: kris@365picturetoday.com

My favorite gadget is the Peak Design Travel Tripod. Don't let the "travel" part of its description fool you. It is my everyday tripod. It's lightweight, stable, and user friendly.



LEE

contact: lee@365picturetoday.com

I have two favourite gadgets, and one is my Joby sling strap and the second is my lightweight travel tripod. My sling strap attach's to the camera using the tripod mount, so I have a cool mounting plate that has two screw in points. so I don't have to detach my strap if I want to use the tripod.