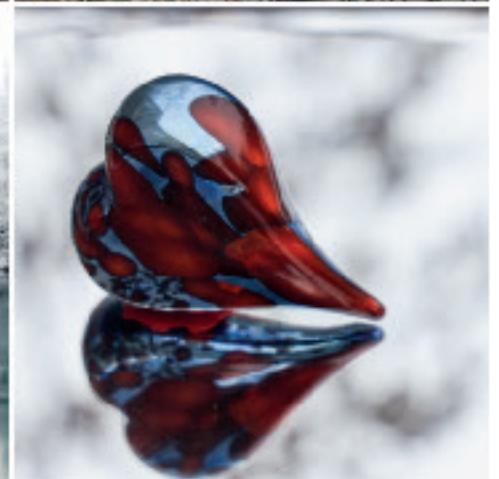
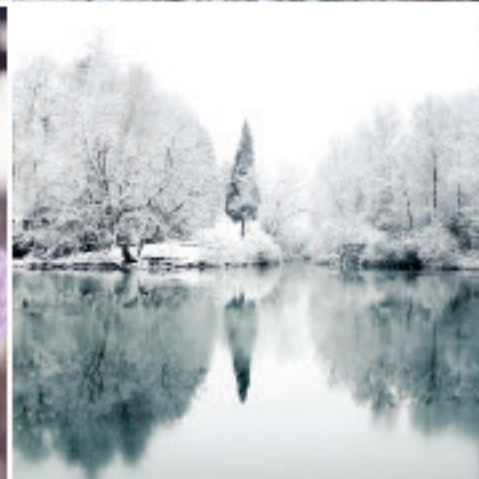


# 365 Picture Today

## JANUARY 2021



# WELCOME TO 2021

Welcome to January with 365 Picture Today and the first thirty-one photos that will tell the story of your 2021. To those of you who are new to 365 Picture Today and those that are new to a photo a day project, Welcome! We are glad that you are here. We trust that you will find a warm and welcoming community willing to share this journey with you. To those of you coming back for another year with us, thank you!

We provide a photo prompt for each day. What you do with it and how you interpret it is totally up to you. Our number one goal is to encourage and inspire you to pick up your camera, whether that be your phone or a DSLR, and document your life one day and one photo at a time. Some days the prompts will speak clearly and strongly to you. Other days they may not. That's to be expected. Some days you may be willing to meet the challenge of working with a prompt that doesn't inspire you. Other days, not. That's okay too. Always remember that this is your project and the photos that you take each day need only have meaning to you.

There is a wealth of knowledge in this community. Feel free to ask questions about any and all aspects of photography in the private Facebook group. You are likely to come across a few good recipes and jokes as well. There is also an infinite amount of compassion and caring amongst our members. It is impossible to share a piece of your life every single day and not come to care about and call one another friends. And once it is safe to travel about again, you can bet that friends in the 365 Picture Today community will find a way to gather in person.

If you have questions, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to the creative team. We do what we do for the benefit of this community so we want to know your thoughts.

All that said, here we go!

Start taking those photos...one day at a time. Remember to share with us in our Facebook group and/or on Instagram using #365picturetoday.

Here's to a new year filled with health, happiness, and good light!

*Amy, Danette, Diane, Garnett, Kris, Lee and Lysle*

# EXPLAINING THE PROMPTS

We are ringing in the new year with a brand-new way of presenting 365 Picture Today prompts. There will be weekly themes designed to fire up your imagination, increase your skill level, learn new techniques and share your joy of the photography world!

**PICTURE YOU** week just might challenge you the most! Getting in front of the camera is important in so many ways. It teaches us how others feel when the camera is pointed at them and it allows us to be more comfortable in our own skin. When we include ourselves in a picture, it documents our days, but you don't HAVE to be in the photo at all if it does not fit your style. There is freedom in this week, but we do challenge you to turn the lens around and get in front of it! (You have a million pictures of your family, but none of yourself, right)? Each PICTURE YOU week will have a GUEST PROMPT where a member from our community will be given the opportunity to write a prompt for us to follow! The guest prompt is designed for you as valuable members to stretch your creative abilities and show us what you've got!

**PICTURE MORE** is 'technical week'. The prompts will let you explore your creativity with a technical agenda. This is the week to try new skills, revisit old ones and maybe learn some really interesting tricks. You might just surprise yourself with your technical genius! One of the greatest things about photography is its diversity. We will be exploring camera angles, symmetry, breaking the rules, negative space and other tricks to make your photography evolve! During this week we will be stretching ourselves with skills that may range from techniques such as light trails, long exposure, lens zooming and panning, or we may switch things up and add some processing fun!

**PICTURE COLOR** is all about color, a specific color on a Sunday chosen by one of the creative team that will be featured exclusively! Sometimes you will easily find these colors and other times these colours may be more difficult to find. Be patient - sometimes the color will just 'pop' out at you in the most unpredictable way! The color prompt week will most definitely make our galleries look lovely!

**PICTURE STYLE** is all about your style within different styles! Landscape, street, night, travel, portraiture, still-life, wildlife photography and other picture modes are going to be stylized to create some amazing photographs. We will also be playing around with shutter speed and double exposure to give your photos a different "pop".

**EXTRA CHALLENGES:** Each month we are including SELF PORTRAIT, WHERE I STAND and MACRO MONDAY challenges. We also have the new QUARTERLY CHALLENGES. First up is PICTURE YOUR WORLD, where you hopefully will return to the same place each quarter to take the same photo (see the seasonal changes), second is the SCAVENGER HUNT that went down so well last year and finally we thought that SONG LYRICS will give us all a bit of a challenge, all totally up to you, if you want to incorporate this into your daily photo.



JANUARY 1

## START

Good morning! Today we begin a new day, a new month, a new year. We are given the gift of starting anew. What does a fresh start look like to you? Do you have a list of resolutions for 2021? Or is your new start a fresh cup of coffee or clean linens on your bed? Whatever "start" looks like to you, that is where you want to turn your camera today.

For those of you who are starting your first 365 daily photo project, Welcome! For those who are new to 365 Picture Today, we are glad you are here! For all of you for whom this is the next step on a familiar path, we are glad you are back!

Starts can be hard, even when you are excited to take that first step. Commitment, especially to do something every single day, can be overwhelming. Start with the first step. Don't worry about the others that will follow. The first one is the hardest!

Happy New Year! We hope that light and love surround you and those you hold in your heart.

Kris



JANUARY 2  
**HELPFUL**

I get by with a little help from my friends.

I am so grateful for the help from our 365 Today Community as we worked through our first year and move into our second.

Many hands make light work.

Thank you!

Tomorrow we officially launch into our new 2021 design with themed weeks. Thank you for being so helpful in getting us here.

Who or what do you find helpful? It doesn't have to be a person....

Garnett



JANUARY 3  
**OPPORTUNITY**

*Picture* **YOU**

About Me - Self Portrait

It's your first Picture You Week of 2021!

This is the week every month that you have the opportunity to be the subject of your own photos, where we encourage you to move from behind the camera to in front! You can share a little or a lot. You can include yourself or not. Whatever fits your style, there is freedom in this week!

For today's self portrait show us how you like to relax!

Since this is the first one, we are going to ease into it; capture yourself doing something you enjoy - like painting, playing a game or drinking coffee. Here are a few tips: Don't look directly at the camera; and set a number limit on the shots. Mine is 10. After that, I try something different. And last but certainly not least, remember to have fun!

Picture You Week just might challenge you the most, but we promise it's worth it!

Amy



JANUARY 4  
**BREAKFAST**

*Picture* **YOU**

About Me

Our family seems to have more breakfast foods at supertime than we do in the morning. Tonight we decided on pancakes. This is fine by me because I am not a fan of cooking; so, a nice, quick meal is ideal in my world.

Show us what your breakfast looks like today - no matter what time of the day it is.

Danette



JANUARY 5  
**RELINQUISH**  
About Me

*Picture*YOU

According to the Webster's dictionary, relinquish means to withdraw or retreat from, to give up or to let go. January is the time when many of us set resolutions, vowing to improve our lives by introducing, changing or relinquishing specific habits.

But rather than getting too serious about whether or not to set resolutions, I decided to approach the word relinquish in a more humorous manner. In our household, Brian is normally the holder of the remote control. Rarely does he relinquish control of it. I am trying to get control of the remote so that I can finally watch something other than football!

Have you made any resolutions this year to relinquish something from your life? What is something you'd like to give up?

"There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind" -C.S. Lewis

Diane



JANUARY 6  
**LETTERS**  
About Me

*Picture*YOU

We are in our first Picture You week of 2021. We are so excited to find out more about You, our community members, during these weeks.

Today is all about letters. Think words... phrases...quotations.

Share with us some words that mean something to you. This is a good day to practice placing text in your photos. I use Photoshop to add text to my photos, but there are many apps that allow you to do so as well. A few you might try are Photoshop Express, The Over App, and Snapseed. What is your favorite way to add text to a photo?

Garnett



JANUARY 7  
**OPEN**  
About Me

*Guest*PROMPT

Today we are focusing on the word "Open". One of the many definitions of open is "allowing access, passage, or a view through an empty space; not closed or blocked up". When I think of open it reminds me of the willingness to trust someone enough to share your feelings, opinions, or their past. To be 'open' is not the easiest characteristic for many of us humans. My son has autism and I am most blessed by it, as Nemo is probably the most open and free loving person I have ever known. Nemo doesn't feel hate, or really much anger, especially towards people. No matter how he is treated, he doesn't place blame. He remains open to love, life, laughter, and superheroes.

What does open mean to you and what will you find opening for you today?

Danta Smith



JANUARY 8  
**HOME**

*Picture* **YOU**

About Me - Where I Stand

Where I Stand is a monthly prompt that we are going to repeat throughout the year. The idea is to include your feet, either taking the photo looking down or putting your camera on a tripod and taking photo of just your lower half.

Home has been an important part of our lives in the last year, perhaps more than ever before. We have all most probably spent more time there in 2020 than in any other year.

This photo is taken in my garden, on the patio which is all part of my home. Think about where you are going to stand and what you want to include in your photo. Put an object exactly where you are going to stand so that you can put your camera on a tripod and focus. I use a remote control (my phone). If you can't do that, you will need to set the delay timer. Use at least 10 seconds. In my photo I have my constant companion as he is always by my side, especially if I get the camera out!

What is important in your home that you want to include in your photo?

Lee

website: 365picturetoday.com



JANUARY 9  
**FASCINATING**

*Picture* **YOU**

About Me

Welcome to our first **Quarterly Challenge!** This will be picture #1 in a series of 4 pictures to be taken in the same spot seasonally!

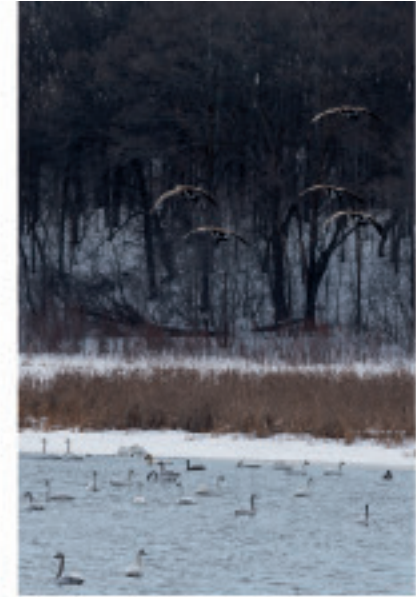
Season 1 stands alone. Season 2 will be added to make a diptych. With season 3 included we have a triptych and season 4 makes for a beautiful quadtych! Make sure you save your photos and that you pick a place that you can easily return to. We want to see your seasons!

We have added a sub prompt to make it even more interesting! Let's get "fascinating"

The world is such an amazing place. We are not always aware of how beautiful our daily world is until it is seen through the eyes of others. You might see your every day world as sometimes mundane, but others who see it for the first time might be in awe and have great interest and are in fact highly fascinated! Show us your world in all 4 seasons starting with season 1!

Lysle

instagram: 365picturetoday



JANUARY 10  
**FEATHERS**

*Picture* **STYLE**

Travel

This week we will be traveling together!

I loved watching these Canadian Geese coming in for a landing with all their buddies, the Trumpeter Swans. I wondered where they flew in from, so I did some research. I found it interesting that these birds may not migrate at all if they are lucky enough to find open water.

Take us on a trip and show us what feathered friends are native in your neck of the woods. I can't wait to see where you take us!

Danette

instagram: 365picturetoday



# 365 Picture Today



JANUARY 11  
**OPENHEARTED**

*Picture* **STYLE**

Travel - Macro Monday

Today is Macro Monday! I love to travel and as I visit more and more countries, I'm touched to discover just how warm and open-hearted people can be. Like the time in Paris when a bakery owner gave us a free bag of pastries on our last day to thank us for visiting every day!

I collect Pandora charms from each place I visit. This is a macro shot of the charms I purchased when I was in France on that trip. Every time I look at them, I'm reminded of the kindness shown to us by this random stranger.

Do you know someone open-hearted? Do you have memories of open-hearted folks you have encountered in your travels? How can you bring that memory to life in your photo. To challenge yourself even further, see if you can incorporate macro photography into your photo today.

Diane

JANUARY 12  
**PROMPT FREE**

*Picture* **STYLE**

Travel

Prompt Free Days often bring to mind the saying, "The grass is always greener on the other side." Some days, we feel restricted by the prompt, but on other days, no specific prompt makes us feel lost by having no point of departure.

Think about these prompt free days as a check-in as to how this project is changing you. What do you notice that you would have overlooked previously? What small moments in YOUR day now feel bigger and call to be documented?

Today is a blank canvas for which all of the other prompts have prepared you.

Keep your eyes open and have fun!

JANUARY 13  
**OUTSIDE**

*Picture* **STYLE**

Travel

When you think about feathers, what comes to mind first is usually their shape, textures, and colors. Feathers make interesting photos both as macro shots and further away. Think about those shapes and textures. Then, take a walk outside and see if you can find something that reminds you of a feather. It may be something big or small, up close or far away, in the garden or on the ground. Photograph it in a way that emphasizes its interesting characteristics.

Keep in mind how the lights and darks fall on your subject; this is what creates depth and form. Where do the lines pull the viewer's eye? Try shooting from different angles.

You may end up with something that feels a bit abstract. That's OK. Let your imagination take you on a trip beyond what you know is in front of your lens.

Kris



JANUARY 14  
**EFFORTLESS**

*Picture* **STYLE**

Travel

Travel photography is intended to document an area to which you travel. Well, travel has been a bit limited recently, so we are just travelling to areas close to home.

I live in a beautiful area and people do come to see the countryside and forest to walk and take in the beauty. I think most places on earth have beauty; sometimes you just have to look a little harder for it.

This is a local park, of which I visit throughout the year, the changes are fabulous to see. It is worth visiting on a regular basis to get some good photos. As it was snowing this day, hardly anyone else was in the park with us early in the morning.

Do you have a place close to home that is effortless to get to?

Lee



JANUARY 15  
**CRISP**

*Picture* **STYLE**

Travel

As armchair travellers and "stay-vacationers", we can travel around our own neighbourhoods. There is so much to discover in our hometowns. There are places you may never go to unless you have visitors; there may be someplace you have not yet visited!

Today 'travel' somewhere in your neighbourhood and show us why we want to visit.

Make it **CRISP!** Crisp as in camera sharpness, crisp as in cold temperatures, crisp as in leaves. You choose! In my sample, I lucked upon a very calm lake crisply reflecting my favourite boat. Incidentally, it has not 'travelled' in years!

Lysle



JANUARY 16  
**KINDNESS**

*Picture* **STYLE**

Travel

Sometimes you don't have to travel far to encounter kindness! It comes in a wide variety of styles! Show us the Kindness you find along the way today!

It may be a coffee delivery from a spouse, a bit of encouragement along the sidewalk, chalk drawing in the street to cheer up the neighbors, or yard art to celebrate a special event.

Amy





JANUARY 17  
**ABUNDANCE**

*Picture***COLOR**

Red

This week is colour week and our first pick of the year is the colour Red.

Today's word is abundance. Brian is a huge fan of the Cincinnati Reds baseball team. He has followed The Reds since he was a kid. Over the years he has collected an abundance of Reds paraphernalia so I thought today was a great day to highlight some of his collection. As a Blue Jays fan myself, I had to throw in a nod to the Toronto Blue Jays in the photo.

There's a saying that goes "when you see red, photograph it". So I challenge you as you take your photos this week to look for red and include in your photos. You can make it the subject of your photo or you can hint at red. The choice is yours! You might be surprised how much red you actually notice this week.

Diane



JANUARY 18  
**LINES**

*Picture***COLOR**

Red

Lines.... our eyes are drawn to them, beyond them, and through them. Lines can add depth and interest. Lines move the viewers eyes to a specific place. We know that "leading lines" are a popular photography composition.

This is red week. Can you find lines that lead you to red? Lines that are red? Or lines that let you peek through and see red? Can you find an unusual way to incorporate the color red into your photo today?

Garnett



JANUARY 19  
**EXCITEMENT**

*Picture***COLOR**

Red

A new hank of yarn is exciting to me. And a basket full of several hanks of new yarn makes it hard for me to contain that excitement! Add to that the energy associated with the color red and my needles are ready to get clicking!

As you go about your day, keep an eye out for collections of red that create a little excitement in your world. It could be apples or flowers or crayons... You may choose to get in close and fill your frame; or, back up and show your red collection in context. The choice is yours.

Remember that this project is about documenting your life so your red collection need only excite you!

Kris



JANUARY 20  
**HUMOUR**

Red

I put the "u" in Humour because I am British, but you can spell it how you like!

So I have basically gone for just a hint of red in my high key photo. Doing this actually makes those parts pop! This photo was taken using a tripod and lots of light. The manual settings on my camera were f/8 ISO 100 and exposure 1/13. I took a spot reading and then upped the exposure +1 and checked that the white balance was correct. This is Kelvin 6400.

High key photography needs a bit of post processing too, I then did up the exposure and whites even more in Lightroom.

Using your mini figures helps with making a fun image.

Lee

*Picture***COLOR**



JANUARY 21  
**INSIDE**

Red

Red is such an interesting colour because it's at both ends of the emotional colour spectrum.

On one end it symbolizes happiness, love, infatuation and passion. On the other end it symbolizes danger, fear, anger and frustration.

Document which end of the emotional spectrum you fall into today with an indoor picture of something red. Or, maybe you just like the colour!

Lysle

*Picture***COLOR**



JANUARY 22  
**UPLIFT**

Red

I find the color red to be very uplifting! It evokes a certain vibrancy and energy.

Today let's get in close, highlighting the details of something Red.

There are several ways to get that up close shot; a macro lens, a tight crop, zoom function on the phone. There are even macro camera phone apps.

Using a tight crop on this poinsettia leaf you can almost feel the rich velvety texture.

Amy

*Picture***COLOR**



JANUARY 23

**WALL**

**Red**

As my fellow teammates have already said, red is an incredible color and yes, we must photograph it!

So, today, when you are looking for your red wall, how can you make it interesting? Play with angles or think about how much of a background or foreground you want to share that will help the red really pop.

I was blessed with a beautiful snow fall when I captured the red walls of this old barn. I felt that sharing more of the building does it more justice than cropping in.

Danette

*Picture***COLOR**



JANUARY 24

**CHEERFUL**

**Break the Rules**

Welcome to your first Picture More Week! Each month there will be a week of technical prompts that will challenge you in your photography. Our first Picture More Week you get to "Break the Rules!" Forget everything you know about technique and composition and just let go this week.

Today you get to be CHEERFUL while you are breaking the rules.

I'm sure my example photo breaks every rule there is. The lighting is wrong... the composition is weird... my hands look gigantic. But it is a pretty cheerful photo don't you think?

Make us smile today with something cheerful... and don't worry at all about making it a perfect photo!

Garnett

*Picture***MORE**

JANUARY 25

**PROMPT FREE**

**Break the Rules**

Prompt Free Days often bring to mind the saying, "The grass is always greener on the other side." Some days, we feel restricted by the prompt, but on other days, no specific prompt makes us feel lost by having no point of departure.

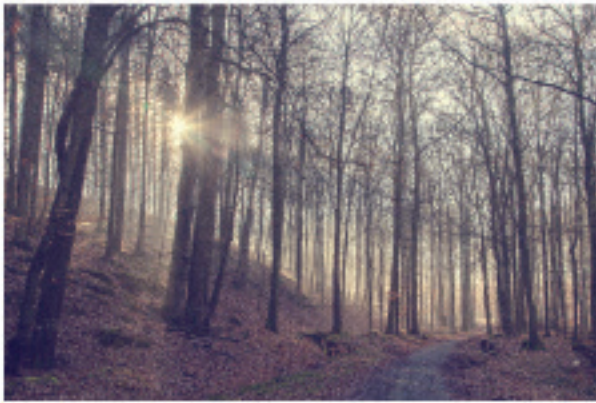
Think about these prompt free days as a check-in as to how this project is changing you. What do you notice that you would have overlooked previously? What small moments in YOUR day now feel bigger and call to be documented?

Today is a blank canvas for which all of the other prompts have prepared you.

Keep your eyes open and have fun!

*Picture***MORE**

365  
*Picture  
Today*



JANUARY 26  
**LIGHT**

*Picture***MORE**

Break the Rules

Oh I love to break the rules, I am a bit of a rebel at heart!

Light is probably the most important part of taking a photo. The basic idea of photography is to turn light into an image.

We are taught right at the beginning of our photography journey to put the sun behind you. Well, I just love putting the sun in front of me. If you do this, you need to make sure that your camera settings are correct. This photo of the sun, was f stop f/11 so that you can get a bit of a flare.

No sun today to take a photo? Find an artificial light to make a beautiful light flare.

Lee



JANUARY 27  
**WONDERFUL**

*Picture***MORE**

Break the Rules

Wonder inspires delight. How can we combine 'wonderful' with rules? Rules tend to get a lot of flak, but deep down inside, most of us know that rules are designed to make life better. With photography it's no exception. The rules of photography are based on general principles that create great photos. Sometimes though, the composition calls for rules to be broken! How much fun is that? Create a sense of wonder by breaking the rules.

The rules of composition state that your horizon should never be in the middle! But what if it is? How wonderful would that be? Sometimes the rule can be too limiting. It's a useful rule but not a dogma! Go ahead and put your horizon where every you please. Shake up that composition with a little rule breaking. In my example I was so bold as to place mine right in the middle to better show the stripes of colour. I believe this made for a far more wonderful composition. Call me "rebel" and I will answer to it.

Lysle



JANUARY 28  
**BRANCH**

*Picture***MORE**

Break the Rules

In the spirit of breaking the rules let us give the prompt an abstract twist.

Instead photographing the trees as they are in their natural beauty let use them to create something unexpected.

Here are a few tricks abstract landscape photographers use:

- Stain glass effect - Shift your focal point to look through the branches focusing in the distance.
- Mysterious and surreal effect - try panning to blur the trees and blend the colors together vertically.
- Distorted effect -shoot at an opposing angle to the branch.

Throw the rules out and let your creativity soar today!

Amy



JANUARY 29  
**ORGANIZED**

## Picture **MORE**

Break the Rules

This organizer belonged to my grandparents, who both passed in 2011. My grandma was particular about her organized kitchen and would correct me if I put something in the wrong spot. She never got crabby with me, and I give her a lot of credit for my organizer personality. However, my silverware drawer only looks like this when I'm putting dishes away. When my kids do the dishes, they just put forks with forks and spoons with spoons in a haphazard way that don't quite fit. It doesn't bother me because I don't share the need for an organized silverware drawer, especially when I'm not the one who is doing the chore. On days when I do have a moment to organize, I will get all the big forks and spoons together and the small forks and spoons together and stack them nicely, so they fit just right. This memory makes me chuckle and I can imagine grandma looking over my shoulder making sure I'm getting organized the "correct" way and that I don't break the rules.

Do you have a specific organized spot that makes you happy? Maybe it's something unusual. Maybe you're one who does better in organized chaos or maybe there's no organization at all. Share it with us and break the rules!

Danette

website: [365picturetoday.com](http://365picturetoday.com)



JANUARY 30  
**1 O'CLOCK**

## Picture **MORE**

Break the Rules - Picture Time

One of the rules of photography suggests you capitalize on the softer light that is prevalent during the golden hour. The golden hour is the hour just after dawn or the hour before sunset. However, I take most of my photos during the afternoon. It can be tricky to photograph at this time of day, especially in full sun. The light is harsh and you often get a lot of unflattering shadows.

This photo of the Canadian Parliament buildings was taken around 1 o'clock (as you can see by the time on the clock in the Peace Tower!). When I walked around to the side of the building, the light was behind me and fell nicely on the building. It helped minimize the shadows. So, although I broke the rule of only photographing during golden hour, I was able to capture a decent photo even in full sun.

What does 1 o'clock look like in your world.?

Is it lunch time, work time, maybe even nap time? Give us a glimpse into your life today and while you're at it go ahead and break the rules.

Diane

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JANUARY 31  
**SMILE**

## Picture **YOU**

What Make Me Happy

This week is all about what makes you happy! One of the things that the pandemic has given us the opportunity to do is to think about what really makes us happy, what feeds our souls. There are many people in my life that make me happy. There are many things that I like to do that make me happy. The older I get, the more I realize that I need to do more of those things!

Admittedly, when adulting takes over, there are days when it is hard to come by a smile. Those are the days when it is important to remind ourselves of what really makes us happy and then seek out a few moments to engage in one of those things. For me, it can be as simple as stepping outside, breathing a few minutes of fresh air, and throwing a few leaves up to the sky. For a brief moment, I am transported back to simpler times, when smiles were everywhere.

Today, do what makes you happy and show us your smile!

Kris

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