

Scrap Your Day

Photo Fact Sheet #11 :: February 2009

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Each month as we near the 25th, there will be a new photo fact sheet to download. Although we all have different levels of experience and different styles, I hope you will find some photographic inspiration whether you're sharpening existing skills or trying something new for the very first time.

Things to remember...

- ★ Charge. Your. Camera.
- ★ The 25th is this Wednesday.
- ★ Consistent shots for every month: clock when you wake, each meal, view from a window, self-portrait, clock when you go to sleep.

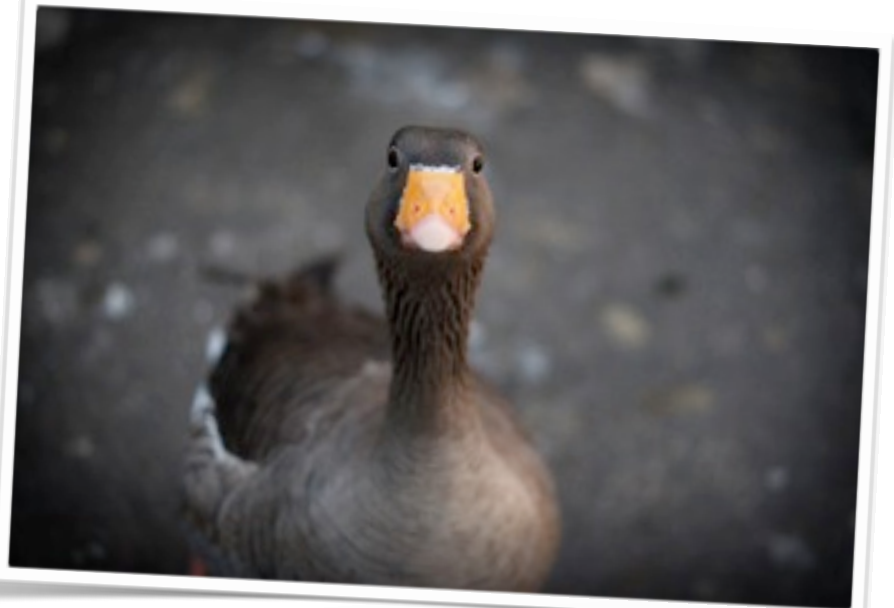
This month: It's all in the expression.

After several months of trying various techniques on quite a few subjects that don't move, it's time to pay a little more attention to the subjects who have the power to disagree when you pick up that camera. Time to really pay attention to the faces around you!

This month's photo challenge is to capture priceless expressions in your pictures. Your friends, family and possibly even your pets may argue with you about this, but it's just for today so give it a go!

It's up to you whether you take a more serious angle of finding the perfectly serious expression of a perfectly serious person (or goose) or whether you just bribe some friends into making silly faces for the camera. A bit of both will probably work out best!

Just because we're focusing on expressions, which may be light-hearted, doesn't mean you have to forget everything else we've tried over the last year. You can still keep composition rules in mind -- I actually have two shots of that goose and in the other shot he is over to the side in the photo. The natural light pattern behind him made this central shot far more balanced. So by paying attention to my space in the composition and the available natural light, I've already put two of our earlier prompts into use. So that explains why it's a much nicer photo than our silly friends here.



If you're photographing your children and want to see a bit more expression, try finding some prop that is photogenic and fun at the same time, like a colourful sweet or toy, and see if the fun can take the focus off the camera, leaving their faces to be more expressive and natural.