

TeenReads

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Volume 1, Issue 3

GET CREATIVE

Smart ways to use your phone

Cell phone poetry

Turning special moments into poems

Digital Collage

Creating a visual diary

Get Creative!

Smart Ways to Use Your Phone

The tech world can be tough and loud. Teenagers know this more than anyone. But the apps and social media available on a cellphone can have some upsides.

Some teenagers have discovered creative ways to use their cellphones. Here are stories of three teenagers, Lucas, Harper, and Asa, who have done just that.

Lucas: Digital Photography

Photos of an event can capture memories and give you a record to revisit and remember. Lucas loves taking pictures of everyday life—rocks on a beach, a sunset, an unusual plant, a funny sign on a building. He plays around with different angles and filters on his phone, turning ordinary things into amazing photos.

Lucas especially loves taking pictures of scenes around his town. He transforms often overlooked things into captivating visual stories.



Lucas uses his phone's camera to capture interesting events and objects.

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Ron Lach | pexels.com

Harper uses her phone's video recorder to create art.

Harper: Video Storytelling

Harper loves making videos. With her phone, she creates everything from short films to funny skits. She uses apps to show off her storytelling and editing skills. Plus, she gets to share her videos with her friends and family.

Asa: Music Creation

Asa makes music using apps on her phone. She mixes different sounds and create beats and melodies that range from electronic to acoustic. All this creativity comes from the phone in her hand.



Band Lab | unsplash.com

Asa uses a music app to record her own songs.

In conclusion, the cellphone is not just a communication tool for Lucas, Harper, and Asa. It is an instrument for artistic expression. Through photography, videography, music creation, and social media interaction, these teenagers harness the creative potential of their cellphones.

Cell Phone Poetry



A note-taking app lets Tess capture moments of ideas that she can use in poems.

Tess is a poet. She is always on the hunt for sights, sounds, or smells that will stir her imagination. Today, Tess is walking in the park. She sees some children playing, and their laughter sets off a memory from her own childhood.

Tess quickly opens the note-taking app on her cell phone. She jots down her thoughts and feelings. She isn't worried about crafting a poem at this time. Right now, she wants to simply capture the feeling and idea. By capturing her thoughts instantly, Tess makes sure her ideas aren't lost.

Turning Special Moments into Poems

Tess uses several steps to create and share her poems. Once she has the idea of a poem on her note taking app, she refines it. Some ideas might stay unfinished, to be returned to at some future time. Other ideas are discarded. Tess knows she can choose to revisit the unfinished or discarded pieces at some

later point. After all, she has a record of these ideas on her phone.

When a poem feels finished to Tess, she often adds visuals to the words. Sometimes, she uses pictures from her photo album. Other times, she uses design apps to add a graphic to her poem.

Sharing and Performing Poetry



Volodymyr Melnyk | Dreamstime.com

Tess shares her poems on social media and in live performances.

Finally, she shares her poems with her friends and family members. Tess finds sharing her creations on social media platforms exciting. But she is cautious not to let the responses of her friends and family take away from her love of writing poetry. Lately, Tess has been performing her poems at open mic nights at a local café. Her audience is mostly trusted friends and family. It can be scary to perform live, but Tess feels it helps her to maintain a healthy relationship with artistic expression. One day, Tess hopes to perform at a poetry festival in the park that has inspired so many of her poems.

Digital Collage: A Visual Diary

Creating digital collages is like putting together a mood board of your favorite things. It's not just fun but also a fantastic way for you to create something new. In recent times, digital collage has become a trend in the art world, allowing you to make eye catching artwork using pictures and a bit of tech magic.

Alright, so what exactly is a digital collage? Imagine it as a modern twist on those old school collages where you cut out pictures and glue them onto paper. But now, it's all digital, using software and images from your phone or the internet.

Getting Started

It is easy to get started making your own digital collage. Your first step is to pick a theme or idea that gets you excited. It could be your favorite colors or things. Maybe it is an important event in your life, like a birthday party or a music festival, that you want to remember. Truly, it can be anything that sparks your imagination. You can find inspiration in nature, magazines, or by connecting with creative communities online.

Once you have your theme, gather digital images that fit the vibe. Grab some from your own collection. You can also get images from the internet or explore stock photos. But be you are using images for which you have permission. The goal is to find the pieces that fit the theme and look well together.



In the past, collage making was limited mostly to glue, scissors, and paper.

Building Your Digital Collage

Now, let's talk digital design tools. There are many online design tools, some free and others for a fee. You can do research to see which ones are at your skill level. Look for videos that show creators making digital collages. Choose something user friendly that fits your budget, style, and vibe.

Once you've chosen a design platform, you're ready to build. Start by creating a canvas or background. It will act as the base of your collage. Then, have fun arranging your images on it. Play around with different layouts to see what looks best. Want to take it up a notch? Add some text to make it uniquely yours.

Don't forget the fine tuning part. Adjust things until your creation looks just right. Resize images, experiment with colors, and make sure everything flows together seamlessly. Once you're satisfied with what you've made, save it as a high quality image.

Digital collages give you the freedom to express yourself in a flexible and creative way. Follow these steps, explore online tips, and let your imagination run wild. Try out different sizes, colors, and add your own flair with text elements. So, what are you waiting for? Dive in and start creating your own visual diary.



Today, you can make a collage using just a phone.



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