
WORKING WITH ARCHIVES

TUTORIAL TRANSCRIPT

When we think about archives we often think about libraries or museums or other types of institutions where artifacts and materials are hidden away from the general public or only viewable at a distance or under certain conditions. I would encourage you to think about archives more broadly and more personally.

When creating a digital story, think about the archives that you, your family and your friends may have access to. One example of a personal archive is the photo album. This could be a physical photo album that contains printed photographs or it could be a digital photo album, stored on our phone or computer.

Working with personal archives such as a family photo album can be a powerful visual storytelling device especially for stories that focus on re-telling or re-storying narratives from one's past.



Through audio or other means, storytellers can provide context for images from their history or draw attention to aspects of a photograph that might otherwise be overlooked at first glance.

Photographs can hold layers and layers of meaning and working with archival images can provide a storyteller with the opportunity to respond to, or even re-imagine, their own histories.

On a practical level, working with archival materials can require extra steps, such as digitizing a physical photograph. Scanning is one method of digitizing a printed image so it can be imported into WeVideo.

There are also many free apps for your phone that can help you to capture the highest quality possible. A photo album is only one type of personal archive.

Consider the other types of archives or collections you might want to incorporate in your digital story.