

GSL Zoom Photography Sequencing Activity

PURPOSE

To better understand, through photography and discussion, a broader perspective of Great Salt Lake from its microbes to its far reaching ties to other ecosystems and to the world.

MATERIALS

There are three 'GSL Sequence' sets of photos in the 'GSL Photo Sequences' folder. Each set includes 12 photos ranging from smallest to largest organisms associated with Great Salt Lake.

ACTIVITY

Put students into 1–3 groups of 12.

- If there are enough students to have 3 groups of 12 or *13 (see below) then you will use all 3 sequence sets, and run the activity simultaneously with 3 groups.

*If possible, designate a student per group to run the activity including gathering, arranging, and displaying the photographs. This student is not passed a photograph.

From a set, distribute one photo to each student in the group.

- Low Tech Modality– print photos and pass them out
- High Tech Modality– send a single digital photograph from a set to each student in a group.

Explain that they may only look at their own photograph and must keep their photo hidden from others. Encourage students to study their photo, since it contains important information to help solve a problem. The challenge is for the group to sequence the photographs in order from smallest to largest (from the microscopic organisms of Great Salt Lake to the largest) without looking at one another's photos.

To do this, students will need to circulate within their group, describing their photograph to one another in order to place it correctly in sequence, still not looking at one another's photos.

- Low Tech Modality– Place photos face down (on a table or on the floor) in sequential order.
- High Tech Modality– Open a file in either PowerPoint or Google slides, etc. and have students place their photo onto a slide in sequential order. They can also do this using the 'digital photobook' feature in Canva.

When the group believes they have all the photos in order, they can be displayed to everyone in the group.

Encourage students to sort out any mistakes and then give them time to look at and discuss the final order.

- Low Tech Modality: Let everyone walk around to view the photographs in sequence and discuss the process and how this is a metaphor for real life.
- High Tech Modality: Have students open the full slideshow or digital photo book and discuss the process and how this is a metaphor for real life.

(Optional) Have a spokesperson from each group present the GSL story to the class, referencing the photographs and emphasizing how even the smallest organisms play an integral part in the bigger picture.