



# McCLANAHAN CAMERA

## PHOTOGRAPHING CHILDREN

- Tamron Co., LTD

*From the moment they are born, children do so many wonderful things. Photography lets us capture these cherished moments so that we can re-live them time and time again.*

*Kids go through many developmental stages . . . growing before our eyes, discovering their colorful toys and showing off all those adorable outfits we buy them. These are the moments that make the pictures we want to keep forever. Pictures to frame for ourselves and for our friends and family to enjoy.*

### GETTING STARTED

*Children are completely unpredictable, so it's best to keep your camera loaded with film and ready-to-go.*

For most lighting situations, use natural light instead of always using a flash. If you plan to make enlargements bigger than 8x10, you should try a slower print film.

As children get older, try using a more powerful zoom lens. This will let you capture candid pictures of your children at play from a comfortable distance.

#### Photo Tip

*Learning to hold your camera properly will help you get the best results.*

- Make sure your camera is adequately supported, or you could get blurry pictures. Camera shake becomes more of a concern as you use more powerful telephoto lenses.

### INFANTS

*Newborns spend much of their time sleeping. But you can get some cute photos while they are lying in a baby seat or bassinet.*

A mother nursing her infant can make a tender, and beautiful photograph. Try shooting it by the natural light coming through a window, and use a soft-focus to enhance the natural beauty.

Line the baby seat with a pastel-colored blanket (avoid white and distracting patterns) and fill the frame as much as you can to eliminate most of the background.

### TODDLERS

*As children start to explore the world around them, you'll want to catch every moment on film.*

Give children safe colorful props to play with and just watch what they do. Try bright sunglasses, oversized stuffed animals, hats, etc., and see their many delightful expressions.

#### Photo Tip

*To make your pictures more professional looking . . .*

- Avoid Red-eye by shooting flash photos in well lit rooms. Also, make sure your camera is set to the Red-eye reduction flash mode. This will fire a pre-flash before the actual picture is taken to reduce the red-eye effect.

CHILDREN



### Photo Tip *continued*

- Avoid harsh flash lighting and distracting shadows by bouncing your flash off a white ceiling. (Colored ceilings will affect the color of your photo.) Cameras with built-in flashes often accept an auxiliary flash which can be used for bouncing.

- Bath time and feeding time provide some excellent picture taking opportunities.

- Use the bathroom sink with colorful toys.

- Unhappy expressions - they don't have to smile to make a good photo.

- Messy foods can create some great photos. But, be sure to put protective plastic outside of camera view.

## PRE-SCHOOL & OLDER

*By now children are becoming involved in many activities. This is a good time to consider a telephoto zoom lens.*

Telephoto lenses allow you to get closer to your child without physically moving, and will help you get candid shots without breaking your child's concentration.

Sports, school plays and other group activities require photography from further away. Or, if you want to pick your child out of a crowd, use a telephoto zoom.

For dramatic portraits, shoot close, and focus on the eyes to bring the portrait to life.

### Photo Tip

*When shooting telephoto close-ups consider switching your camera to manual focus.*

- When shooting with a telephoto lens, your shutter speed should be at least equal or greater than the focal length you are using.

- Set your camera to shutter priority mode and choose the appropriate shutter speed. Be sure to use fast film if you will be using a high shutter speed.

### Photo Tip

*Sometimes shooting outdoors presents problems with lighting.*

- Strong sunlight can often cast harsh shadows on your subject's face. Many cameras have a "fill-flash" mode which helps soften these shadows. They provide a small burst of light to brighten shadow areas and produce pleasant highlights.

- Everyday situations make the cutest pictures, such as, a parent reading to a child, children saying their prayers, playing in a sandbox, or having fun with the family pet.



- Shooting while your child is running through a playground or along a soccer field will give you photos that convey motion. Everything around your child will be blurry, but your youngster will remain in sharp focus. Hold the camera steady, and follow your child through the viewfinder as you release the shutter.

### Photo Tip

*Try shooting against the rules.*

- Use a slow shutter speed while your child is on a swing, or riding towards you on a tricycle.



- If using a flash, set it on the slow-sync mode. (Consult your camera's instruction book.)

- Shoot upward toward the sky for a dramatic silhouette effect.

- If you are shooting into the sun, make sure that your subjects are in front of it.

## PHOTO ALBUM

*Most parents spend many hours photographing their children. So it's wise to take a few minutes more to assure that the memories will last forever.*

Include items like birthday party invitations, or a ticket stub from the circus.

Keep all your negatives and slides well organized.

Keep your negatives in "archival" quality fill sheets which are three-hole punched, and then file them in a three ring binder for safe keeping.

Make sure your photos are printed on archival paper. Be careful—not all computer or printer paper are archival.

To ensure archival digital photos, use one of our photo Kiosks at McClanahan Camera.

**McClanahan Camera**

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*For All Your Photographic Needs*