

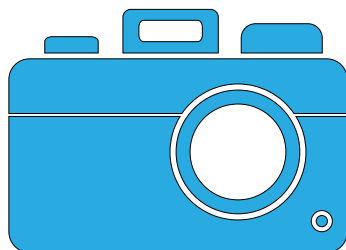


# EcoSeek<sup>®</sup>

## CAMERA TIPS

### for the

### *Bondar Challenge*





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### **Colour**

In a colour photograph, each colour contributes to the composition. In black and white, shades of grey are used.

Colour is more vibrant after rains. Lines can be created with colours such as these fall maple leaves that move colour in a diagonal line. Repetition of colour can enhance interest.

A splash of colour that is different from its surroundings will draw the eye.



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### **Framing**

A point of interest is enhanced if there is an object or different light such as shadows, plants, and rocks in the foreground to create depth.

In this example, darker lichens climbing over the granite rock of the Canadian Shield frame the massive pink with the splatter of other yellow lichens.



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### **Leading Lines**

Leading lines carry the eye into a photograph. For example, they can be the trunks of trees, the pattern of bark, stems of any plant or leaf, or even the trees of the canopy leading into the sky.

Look for different patterns of leading lines such as curves, broken, thick and thin, colours and textures (rough or smooth).



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## Light

Natural Light is created by the sun. On a bright sunny day, objects in the direct path of the sun (a yellow star) will be very bright and cast harsh shadows. Blue sky (blue from sunlight bouncing off gasses in the upper atmosphere into the blue part of the visible spectrum) illuminates anything in the shadows, giving a blue cast.

Avoid taking both harsh shadows and extreme bright sunlight in the same exposure unless you are trying to capture a deliberate pattern. The camera will pick one or the other for its exposure, rendering shadows underexposed (without detail) or highlights that are overexposed (too bright).

Diffuse light from a totally cloudy day will be softer without harsh shadows. Warm light occurs a few hours before sunset and after sunrise, making highlighted areas closer in exposure to the shadows.



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## Perspective and Sense of Scale

To help others understand the sense of size or scale, include something familiar such as a rock or plant in the foreground.

Moving around and altering the height at which you photograph will change the location of the foreground with respect to the distant background.



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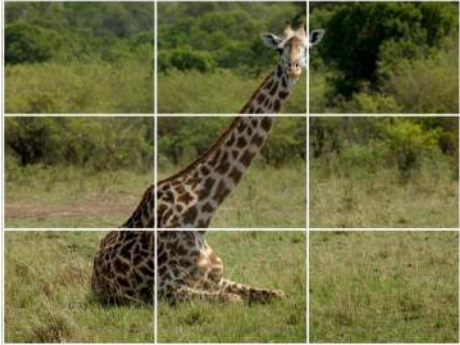
## Focal Point of Interest

Look for something that is different or that stands out, such as a different colour, texture or shape.

Try different heights, such as crouching, lying on your stomach, looking up from the ground.

Remember to place your point of interest off centre to create interest.

Get closer. Use the Macro setting or the telephoto (Zoom) lens to compose.



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### **Rule of Thirds**

Divide the LCD or Viewfinder into thirds horizontally (lengthwise) and vertically (height-wise) or use the Grid feature.

Place your point of interest (especially good for eyes, heads, centre of flowers) along these lines and/or at the four points where the lines intersect (cross each other).



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### **What You Want the Viewer to See**

A photograph is "painting or writing with light".

The four elements of a photograph include attention to subject, composition, light, and exposure.

Subject is what you select to photograph.

Composition is how you balance everything in the frame of the LCD or viewfinder such as shapes, colours, use of macro (close-up).

Light is what you use to make your subject look the best, such as diffuse light from an overcast day to eliminate harsh shadows, or warm light after sunrise or before sunset.

Exposure is how much light you let into the camera to give good detail in shadows and highlights (light and dark).