



Wired WOLF. INFO

November/December 2008 Technology Helps for Parents Volume 1, Number 3

Wired Wolf Hopes to Provide Technology Helps

Technology can be overwhelming. Ms. Wired Wolf has learned from workshops, skilled and helpful tech partners' consultations, and "trial and error" experiences. I don't claim to have all the answers, just some information that might be helpful!

Digital Cameras: More than Just point and Click

1997 was the first year I started using a digital camera. It was a Minolta Digicam. It actually took better photos with a 640 by 480 resolution than the camera replacement, a Sony with 1.3 mp resolution photos. Go figure!

The good news about digital cameras is that as the price has come down over the years, the resolution has gone up considerably. *As I'm writing this newsletter, (11/16/08), you can buy an 8.0 mp Canon Powershot camera from Best Buy online for \$135!*

Keep in mind that you need to think about what kind of photos you are interested in taking, under what conditions the photos will most often be shot, and how you plan to use the photos afterwards before jumping to conclusions about what kind of camera to get. For instance, last January I replaced a very small pocket camera with an advanced larger one. While the second took great photos, it didn't fit in my pocket, and I found that many of the advanced features I paid for were never used. When the camera stopped working last month (thank goodness, covered by the extended warranty I purchased), I returned to a great quality pocket camera again. Listed below are some sites that might help you make that camera purchase decision:

<http://digital-photography-school.com/blog/how-to-buy-a-digital-camera/>

<http://cameras.about.com/od/choosingacamera/bb/bybcamera.htm>

<http://www.wikihow.com/Buy-a-Digital-Camera>

After the Click: Some Photo Editing

Now that you've made the switch to a digital camera, you don't have to be stuck with photo disappointments that happen now and again-- you can edit! In the past, photo editing was strictly for the professional; however, now editing programs have become user friendly. My personal freeware favorite is FxFoto which can be downloaded from: <http://www.fxfoto.com/fxdownload.htm>. When you get to the page, **download only the viewer if you wish to use the program for free.** There are several other freeware photo editors:

Gimp: a poor man's version of Adobe Photoshop: <http://www.gimp.org/windows/>

Image Forge: <http://www.simtel.net/pub/dl/82707.shtml>

Paint.net 3.36: http://www.filehippo.com/download_paint.net/tech/

Howling Great Sites:

Digital Photography
Tutorial

<http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/tutorials.htm>

Tutorials from Photoxels

<http://www.photoxels.com/digital-photography-tutorials.html>

Complicated Site, but
Unlimited Tutorials

<http://www.dcvIEWS.com/tutorials.htm>

Photoshop Tutorials

<http://www.photoshoppers.com/photo-editing/>

Top 5 Photo Editors

<http://www.basic-digital-photography.com/top-5-beginner-photo-editors-for-windows.html>

Contact Information

help@wiredwolf.info

*What do you want to
learn how to do?*

*What kind of resources
do you need to solve a
problem?*

*Let me know
how I can help
you. I might
not know the
answer, but I'll
find someone
who will!*