

Depth in Photography

- * Foreground
 - * Middleground
 - * Background
 - * Depth of Field/Long/Short
 - * Framing
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- The foreground of any image is the part of the photo closest to the camera/viewer
- What should you look out for in the foreground:
 - Can you bring them into focus?
 - A blurred foreground prevents the viewer from entering the picture
 - Distracting elements?
 - Can you reach out and move them?
 - Can you move left or right to get a better view?

Foreground

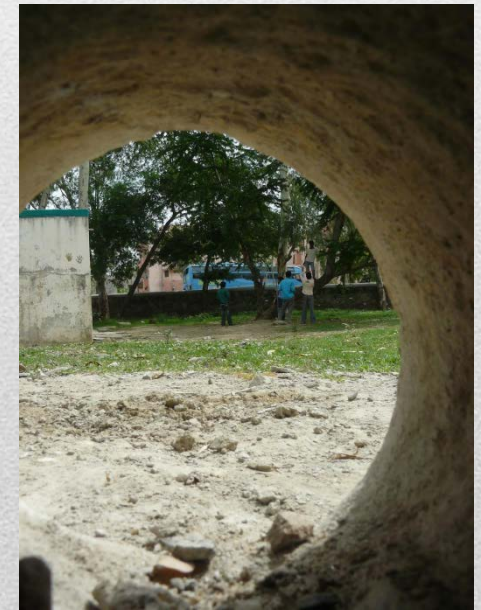
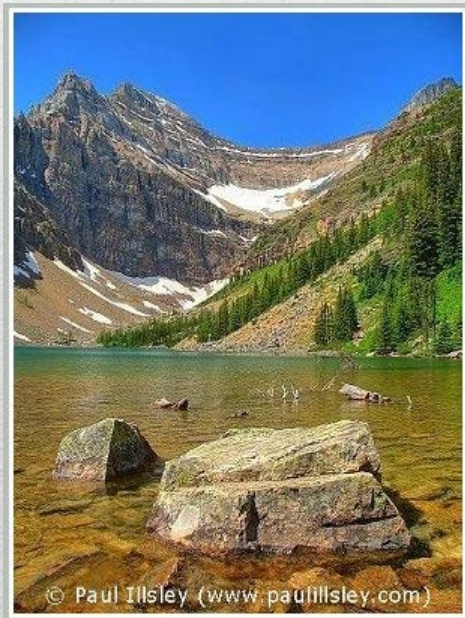
- The Middleground is in the “spatial” middle (not center) of your photograph and is often the subject
- Having a Foreground, Middleground and Background will create depth in a photograph.

Middleground

- The Background of your photo is the area behind your subject
- Use a PLAIN/SIMPLE background... unless the background helps tell part of the story
- SIMPLIFY!!! If an object doesn't add it detracts from it!
- The more distractions removed from the background, the more attention is given to the subject
- What should you look out for in the background:
 - Distracting elements?
 - Protruding objects from subjects heads?
 - Competing lines?
- Avoid extremely light or dark backgrounds

Background

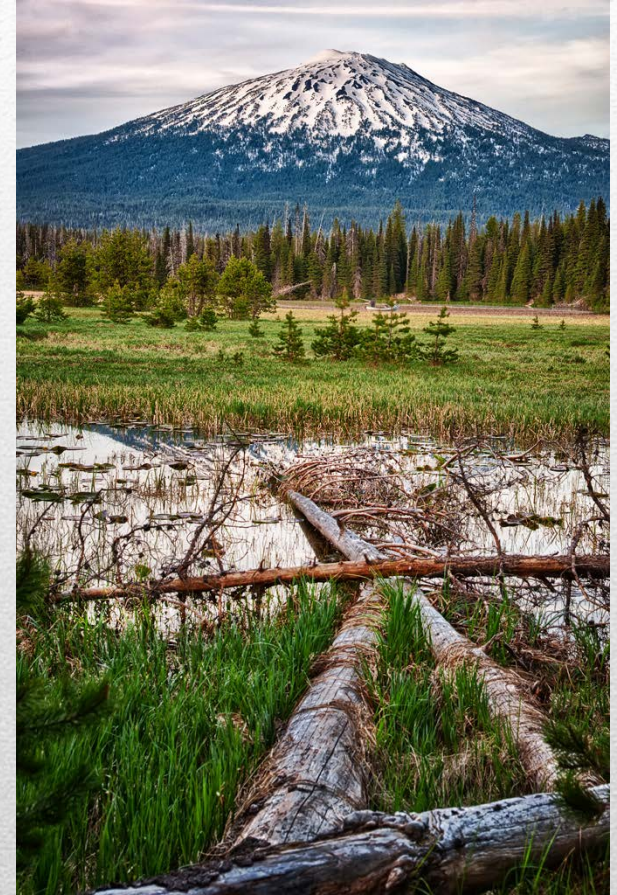
Foreground/Middle/Background



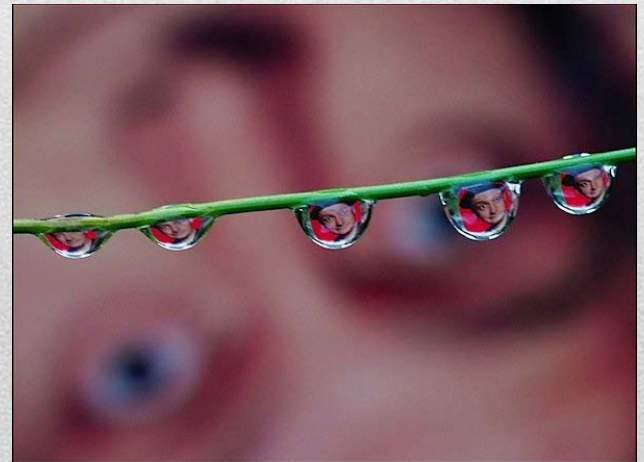
- Refers to the portion of the scene in focus in the camera
- The acceptable distance in front of AND behind the subject that is in focus
- Long/Deep DOF:
 - When a lot of the scene is in focus... the subject is ALWAYS in focus
- Short/Shallow DOF:
 - When only a small zone is in focus (maybe ONLY the subject)... the subject is ALWAYS in focus

Depth of Field

Long/Deep Depth of Field



Short/Shallow Depth of Field



- What you place in the foreground of the image to give the viewer a sense of where you're standing
- Use nearby objects to frame the subject of the photo
- Keep in mind the aspect ratio (size), orientation (portrait or landscape) and shape (square/rectangle) of the photo
- Try and fill the frame

Framing

Framing

