4-H Photography Monday
Week 5 Challenge

Portrait Photography

A great portrait captures not only a person's physical image, but also something of the person's character and personality.

Types of portraits

- Formal – controlled in regard to lighting, background, and clothing choices
- Informal – more spontaneous, casual, and candid
- Environmental – captures a person in a locale that is special to that person

Tips for taking portraits

o Back up and zoom in – stay at least 6 feet away from the subject and fill the frame with the subjects face and shoulders
o Shoot a lot of pictures – people blink, make odd faces, etc. so you will want to take more than one picture
o Make your subject feel at ease – don't tell people to smile; take pictures while your subject talks and while they laugh; tell the subject to look away from the camera
o Lighting – turn off the camera's flash; use window light or attractive outdoor light on a cloudy day

Questions to think about:

What were some good ways you found to make your subject feel at ease?

Why do you think it's important for them to feel at ease?

Can you think of other situations when making others feel at ease is important? How can you help in these situations?