

# Southborough LibGuide: How to Use a Green Screen



## 3-2-1 Action!

*Do you have a school assignment where you need to use several images creatively? Are you hoping to record yourself or your friends for a vlog? Green screens make swapping backgrounds in photos and videos a snap! Chroma key photography (a technical term for green screen photography) gives image makers an efficient way to superimpose foreground images onto backgrounds. With a green screen, a tripod and appropriate lighting, you can produce a variety of creative effects for still and video imagery.*

## Helpful Shooting Tips

1. Position the camera either horizontally or vertically on the tripod to accommodate your needs.
2. Keep the subject a few feet away from the green backdrop to reduce shadows.
3. Straighten out folds in the cloth at the bottom of the floor (*if your image will include the floor area*).
4. Position the Westcott lighting stands on either side of the screen, at ~45 angles.

## Post-Processing

You can use a variety of software applications to combine your backgrounds with your green screen images. For example:

1. [Removing green screen using Apple devices/applications](#)
2. [Remove green screen with GIMP](#)

## Making Reservations!

Please let a staff member know when you intend to use the green screen equipment. A staff member will reserve the adjoining Eaton Room for you and will assist with the Canon camera, lights, tripod and green screen setup. *Please note: many groups use the Eaton Room; advance notice is required to secure your desired date.*

## CW/MARS Resources



[The Green Screen Makerspace Project Book](#)

[Video Animation and Photography](#)



## Online Resources

[Westcott Lighting: Green Screen Photography Basics](#)

## Share Your Progress

Be sure to email Library Director, Ryan Donovan at [rdonovan@cw mars.org](mailto:rdonovan@cw mars.org) with any examples of your work so we can post them on our Facebook or Twitter accounts. Use hashtag #sblibIdeaLab.

