

How^{To} Shoot Like A Pro

Quick tips, tricks and techniques to get the best out of your budding filmmakers.

Lesson #3 for educators and students:

Creating a lively documentary video using photos.

By adding movement to still pictures and images, your students can create engaging documentaries without any video footage. The method you'll learn in this lesson is called "Pan-and-Zoom." It's the same effect professional documentary filmmakers use to add interest and excitement to their work.

Using the Pan-and-Zoom feature in your Pinnacle Studio Plus software, you can zoom in and out on photos. Scan across images to create a dramatic panoramic effect. And re-create past events with historic pictures, maps and documents. You can even add **music titles** and **special effects**.

It's a great way to bring book reports or historic events to life. To help you get started, we've created a step-by-step sample storyboard for a student documentary on the American Revolution.



How to use Pan-and-Zoom like a pro.



Step 1: Indicate how long you want your clip to be using the Clip Properties tool. *Clip of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.*



Step 2: Using the Click Properties tool, zoom in on the part of your image that best advances your story. *Zoom in on signing.*



Step 3: You can zoom in closer or make other changes to your clip, like removing "red eye" from photos or rotating a vertical image to create a horizontal one.



Step 4: To add interest and variety to your story, start with a close-up of your next clip. *Close-up of George Washington crossing the Delaware.*



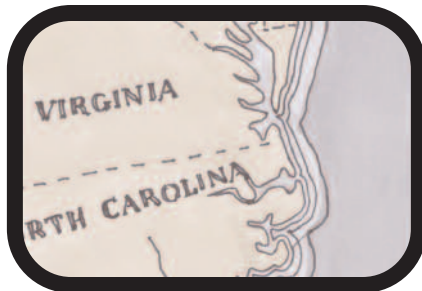
Step 5: Zoom out a bit. *Zoom out to reveal more.*



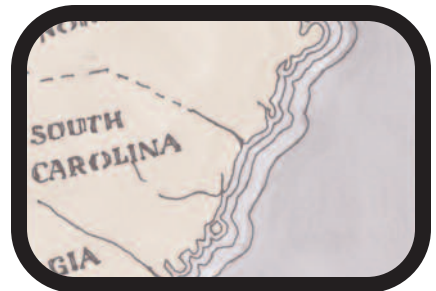
Step 6: Zoom out to reveal even more. *Full shot of crossing the Delaware.*



Step 7: Next try Pan-and-Zoom animation, which allows you to scan from one area of interest to another. Use the highest image resolution possible to avoid fuzziness. *Map of the 13 colonies.*



Tip: Panning across a wide scene or a map to reveal details one at a time is like taking your audience on a guided tour as your story gradually unfolds. *Moving south on the map.*



Tip: This technique can be used to create a sense of discovery when a dramatic or humorous detail finally comes into view. *Close-up of South Carolina coincides with narration.*



Step 8: Advance your story with complex Pan-and-Zoom. *Revolutionary troops.*



Tip: Apply Pan-and-Zoom to various details on the same image. For example, you can focus on four faces in a group photo. Then a fifth view pulls back to reveal as much of your picture as will fit into a wide-screen frame without black sidebars. Studio Plus automatically generates smooth motion from one view to the next, panning and zooming simultaneously as needed. *Revolutionary troops.*



Tip: As an alternative to setting up automatic Pan-and-Zoom animations with the Clip Properties tool, you can enter start-and-end framing properties manually with the Pan-and-Zoom video effect. You can also combine the two methods by specifying your initial settings and then fine-tuning them with numerical effect parameters.

Step 9: Put on the finishing touches: import additional video clips, add 2D or 3D transition titles and chapter breaks, and sync your story to music using the SmartSound tool.

Step 10: Save your finished documentary in almost any format, and burn a DVD to share with family and friends.

This is **a blank storyboard**. Use it to sketch out scene sequences that you will shoot for your movie.

