

### Digital Camera

Take pictures and create captions to accompany them.

### Video Cam

Take a picture of the room or any picture and create a title or caption for the picture.

### Wireless Keyboard

In small groups, brainstorm creative titles then use camera to illustrate the title.

### Internet

Send email to an author of a book or an article to ask how the title was determined for their writing.

### E-books

Download a free E-book based only on the title. Read the story. Was the story what you expected based on the title?

### Lesson Goals

- Next Generation participants will discuss titles, their roles, implications, and perceived value.
- Next Generation participants should come to the conclusion that titles are can be misleading and judgements about books, people, etc. should be made on the whole rather than just the title.

### Step by Step

1. Mentors can begin a discussion on the purpose of titles by asking what purpose titles have with a story or poem?
2. Have a list of common titles and ask what the participants would assume based only on the title. (Example: Would *Green Eggs and Ham* be a cookbook or *Go Dog Go*, a training manual for dogs?)
3. Read a short story published in a magazine, a poem, or a children's book.
4. Talk about the connection between the title and the text. Is there a good match between the title and the writing? Does the title interest them in reading the story or book? Would the group have created a different title?
5. Have the group brainstorm alternate titles.
6. Using pictures from books in the library or magazines, or snapshots the group has taken, create captions or titles for the pictures. Come up with several titles or captions for each picture.
7. How does a different title or caption change the perception of what is happening in the picture?

### Additional Activities

- Pick a book out of any section of the library. Look at the cover and the title. Discuss what you expect the story to be about, based on the title.
- With guidance from mentors, download a free "E-book" based totally on an interesting title. Read the story. Does the story match the title? Would you have titled the story something differently?
- Think about something you have read recently. Did the title fit the story? If not, what would you have titled the story?
- Discuss titles that people have whether it is a job title or title of respect such as "Mr." What happens when a title is used or not used. Start with Dr. Jones, Mr. Jones, versus William Jones or Bill Jones or Billy Jones. Does it make a difference in how you perceive or treat that person?

### Review at the end of the session.

- Review the experience and discuss at the end of the unit.
- What did you learn today?
- Do titles help make reading more enjoyable? More interesting? More enticing?  
Can you judge a story, book, or person only by their title? Why or why not?