

# What to look for in a good photograph:

- Is the image in focus?
- Is it correctly exposed? Is it too light or too dark?
- Composition – bad composition can make a good photo look bad. Can cropping the photo make the composition more compelling?
- Too few items of interest or too many takes interest away from the meaning.
- Did you take advantage of the lines, shapes or other elements of art around the subject to create interest? You do not always need to see everything in one shot.
- Was the picture taken at the right moment? Is the person's eyes shut or is their mouth partly open?

## Items to Consider

1. Depth
2. Lines
3. Movement and motion
4. Perspective
5. Lighting
6. Composition
7. Emotion
8. Capture the unexpected
9. Location

The following link will give you an opportunity to see specific ideas come to life within a photograph. Once you click on the site you will see Andy'sLens.com. I have placed an arrow on the sample below for which links to click on to see samples of each of What makes a good photo.

<http://andyslens.com/index/?p=18>

The screenshot shows the homepage of AndysLens.com, a photography blog. The main content area features a post titled "What Makes A Good Photo?" by Andy, dated Friday, February 15, 2008. The post text discusses a notebook of photography articles and lists several topics: INTIMACY, HUMAN INTEREST, CAMERA ANGLE, DRAMA, CONTRAST, INNOVATION, REALISM, SPONTANEITY, LUMINOSITY, MOOD, LIGHT & SHADOW, and CREATIVITY. A red arrow points to the "CAMERA ANGLE" link. Below the list is a "Reciprocal Links" section with two links: "5 ways to pick photos that advance your cause" and "Pictures – Snapping Or Posing". The right sidebar contains sections for "5 Random Posts" (Wood Duck, Mini Photo Safari, CD-R / DVD Archival Quality, Blue Morpho Butterfly Lands, Long Bill and Long Legs), "Top Ten Tags" (Allens Pond Sanctuary, Butterfly Sunday, Slocum's River Reserve, Ivory Gull, Tiverton Butterfly Zoo, Gooseberry Island, Mallard, The River Project, Dog, Piping Plover), and a "Choose tag..." dropdown menu.