

# Visual Literacy Lessons Unit 1



**Endurance:**  
The purpose of this series of tasks is for students to identify and describe components of an image and link this with the activity of bike riding and the charity work of Tour de Cure.

## Learning Tasks

**1. Out of the distance**  
Students work in pairs to find a particular location with a large building or natural feature such as a tree, rock or hill in the background. Students compose the frame of the photograph by having a person in the foreground so that the person and the background object are the same height in the frame.

**2. Point of View**  
Students research different camera angles. Make a collage of images taken from different angles and label according to the reader's point of view.

**3. The Peloton**  
Students work in groups of up to 10 to take digital photographs of the large group with all the members in close physical proximity doing the same physical activity. The group will need to plan and rehearse the shot and the location and make changes to get the best image. Discuss which is the best image.

**4. A team approach**  
Students work in small groups to find images of teams. There needs to be an identifiable feature that shows the team belongs together, whether a uniform, activity, position or location. Share images with other groups and list the features that identify team images.

## Teaching notes

**Perspective**  
This image is made powerful by the position of the cyclists and the large distant hills in the single frame. On paper, the cyclist in the foreground measures about the same as the hill in the background even though their actual measurements are vastly different.

**Camera Angles**  
The camera angle is straight on i.e. it is at eye level. The point of view is one of equality. The viewer is positioned to believe that they could be part of this team.

**Unison**  
The peloton is a particular shaped group of road cyclists. This group has more protection from the wind and is important to the strategy of the race or event. Teams of cyclists work together in the peloton to save energy and be in the best position to win or compete in the event. Peloton photographs are striking as they are a large number of athletes in physical unison.

**Unity and purpose**  
The riders in this image are travelling close together and wearing team uniforms. This shows a unity of purpose. The Tour de Cure riders work together with the purpose of educating children and raising money for cancer research.

**Follow up action:**  
The Tour de Cure raises money to support various projects to fight cancer. One of these projects is TEAM (Treat Excise & Analyse for Melanoma) which aims to find the most effective ways to manage the treatment of melanoma. Sportspeople are very aware of sun protection if their sport is outdoors.