Mannequin Studies

I do not normally create lesson plans as my administration does not require it, however this is what I came up with for the mannequin studies.. Change whatever you need to accommodate for the students.

Materials: <mark>DSLR cameras,</mark> (cell phones will work if you do not have enough digital cameras) Flashlight (cell phones work great,) <mark>mannequins, scotch tape</mark> and <mark>washable markers</mark> for the addition of color. I'd like more props for next time, such as cloth or ribbon, just to add to the scene.

Objective: Students will be able to convey emotion through photography by directing light sources and using body language as a means of expression.

Process: *As students are grabbing their cameras, I walk around and pass out mannequins to the tables. I have 30 students / class and only 15 mannequins, so I paired them with their elbow buddy. Working in pairs turned out to be amazing.*

1.) Give each student a role immediately within the pairs… "Student with the longer hair is A, student with shorter hair is B."

2. Student A will manipulate the light source, student B will shoot photos. **With each pose, each student will have a chance to play both roles.** When directing the light, be sure to move the light around the mannequin. Above, below, to the left and right. When shooting the photo, be sure to do the same! Move! Emphasize different camera angles.

3. After each student understands the roles and how the shooting / directing process works, it's time to pose the mannequins and shoot the pictures! We talked about body language and how it can relate with emotions and behaviors. **What does 'nervous' look like? Think about when you're nervous in real life…. What do you do? I seem to get really tense with my body, I often rub my face or put my hands to my head. Everyone's different. Try to bring your emotions out in the mannequins!**

Emotions / Behaviors:
- **Lonely**
- **Confident**
- **Nervous**
- **Tired**
- **Chill**
- **Athletic**

The shoot took us about 35 minutes, giving students time at the end to reflect and edit their images through Adobe Bridge / Camera Raw.