Using Digital Image Editing to Step Back in Time

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This session is geared towards Kindergarten through university level educators who are interested in integrating technology into instruction. The presenters will share their experiences with instructing elementary pre-service teachers from the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia to use Adobe Photoshop in effective ways when teaching to elementary social studies standards. This group of pre-service teachers collaborated with fourth grade teachers in a local school to develop curriculum materials to teach the Virginia history Standards of Learning. Using Adobe Photoshop, the pre-service teachers superimposed digital images of fourth grade students taken with a digital camera into historical artifacts. The virtual history lessons were taught using the digital images of the fourth grade students as writing prompts to excite the students about the content.

With this workshop, the presenters propose to introduce Adobe Photoshop as a means of inserting digital images of people into digital copies of historical artifacts to make teaching history standards more meaningful. The participants will learn how to use digital cameras to capture digital images of themselves and make them ready for use in an image editor. They will then explore Library of Congress’ American Memory photograph archive and learn how to efficiently use Alta Vista for image searching of historical images on the Internet. Once the participants have digital images of themselves and a historical photograph, painting, or image, they will learn the basics of image editing to superimpose their picture onto the historical item in Adobe Photoshop.