

# 7 Tips to Develop the Art of Seeing

© 2021; Jeff Parker; [ExploreinFocus.com](http://ExploreinFocus.com)

**1) Think like a kid.**

When framing the shot, ask yourself, "How would a child visualize this?" Imagine that you're a kid again seeing much of the world either for the first time or from an innocent perspective. Then capture your subject in those terms.

**2) Get rid of preconceptions.**

Before taking any shot, stop & make sure you aren't carrying along a preconceived idea of how it "should" be done according to someone else's vision or according to a shot you may have seen done before. Try a whole day of taking shots without the word "should." Use the words, "What if?" instead.

**3) Look upside down.**

Get your ideas by viewing the world topsy-turvy. A whole other way of composing, feeling, & being exists when you turn your camera ground down.

**4) Shoot from one spot.**

How many different images can you create from a single spot? Don't let yourself move from where you're at for at least an hour. Change the lens if you want, but not your position.

**5) Touch it first.**

Don't shoot it until you feel it. In other words, use your sense of touch – a sense we don't usually associate with photography – to help you "see" something you might not normally notice.

**6) Fix that focal length.**

Spend an entire day keeping your focal length the same no matter what you shoot or where you go. Force yourself to work within that boundary & discover some surprising results.

**7) Pick a color.**

Choose one color & make that the focal point for a day. You'll be amazed at how that transforms your art & your ability to see.

\*\*\*\*\*

Award-winning nature & wildlife photographer,  
Jeff Parker leads photo tours & workshops  
for the naturally curious throughout Latin America  
& the Southwestern U.S.

- \* (512) 378-3355
- \* JParker@ExploreinFocus.com
- \* [ExploreinFocus.com](http://ExploreinFocus.com)

