

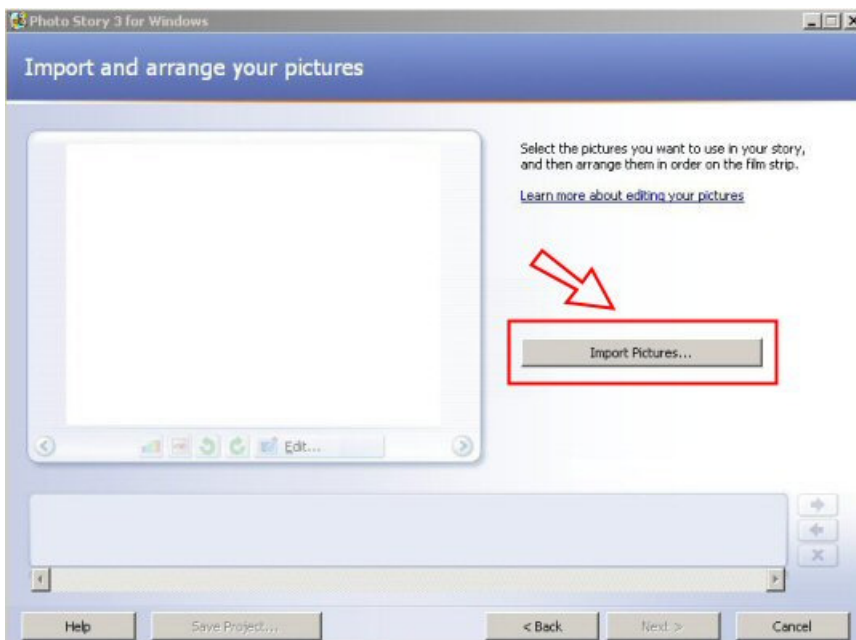
Photostory 3

1. Open Photostory 3

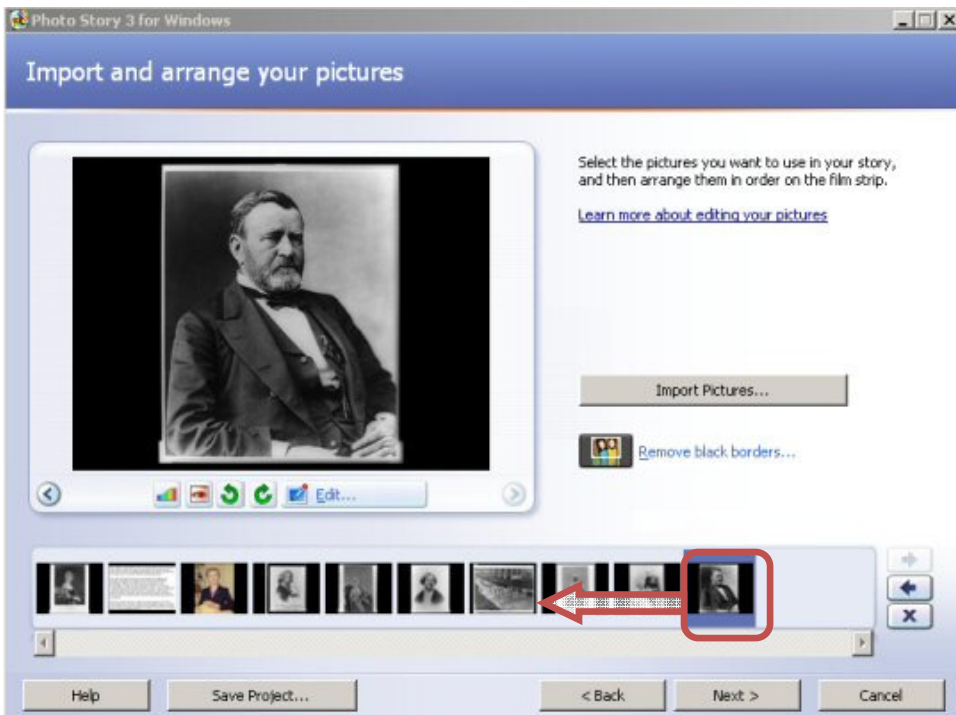
2. Begin a new story



3. Import Pictures

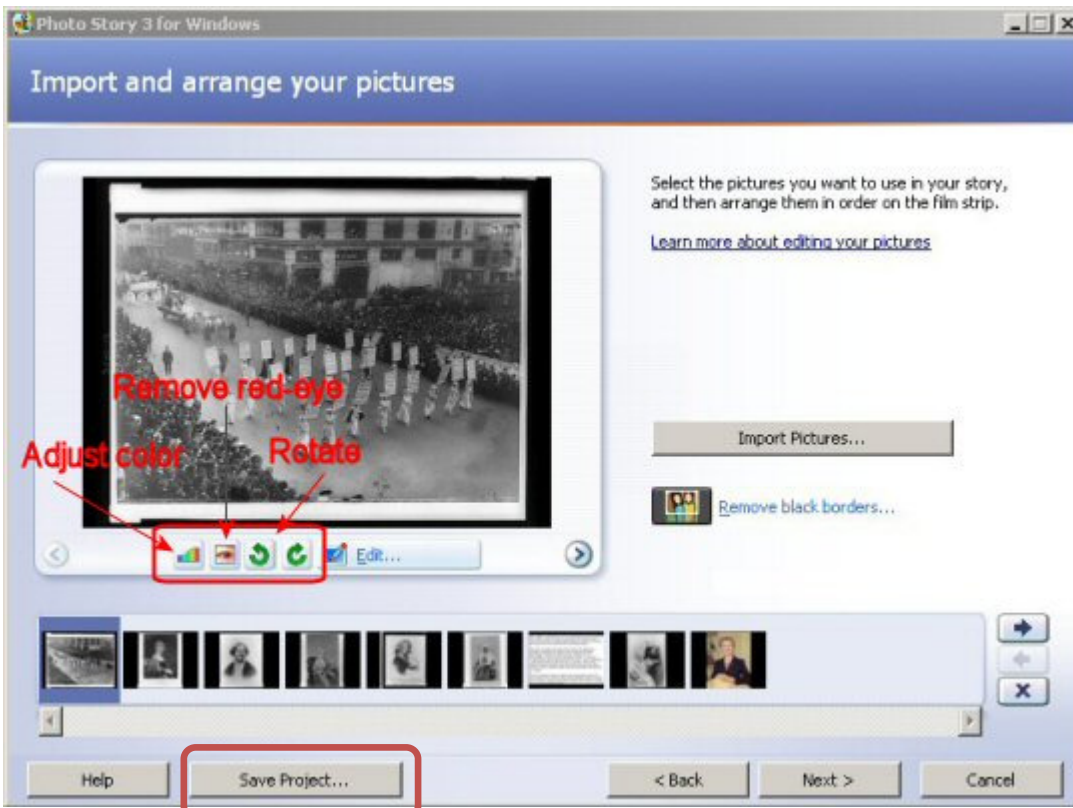


4. Browse to the images on your computer that you would like to use in your project. You can select more than one photo by holding the SHIFT key as you click each photo. If you want to import all the images in the folder, just click one of them and then hit Ctrl + A.



5. Arrange - Your photos will be automatically arranged in alphabetical order – you can change this order by selecting each thumbnail on the timeline at the bottom and dragging it to where you want it to be placed.

6. Edit your photos - To correct the color level of a photo, select the photo (click once on its thumbnail so it will display in the larger screen), then click the color adjustment button below the large photo. To remove red-eye, select the photo, then click the red-eye button. To rotate your photo 90 degrees right or left, select the photo, then click on the appropriate rotate button. When you are finished, click **Save Project** and name your project – **I would click this button after every major change you make!**



7. **Advanced Edits** may be made by selecting a photo and then clicking the **edit button**:



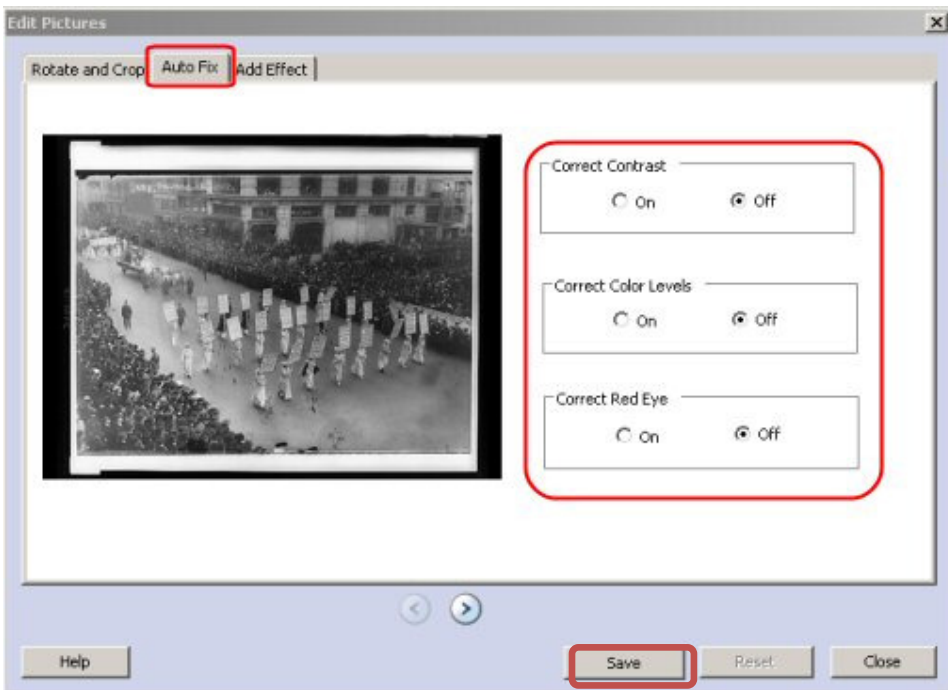
8. **Rotate and Crop** - You can always rotate from the project window, but the **crop** option is what we are using here:



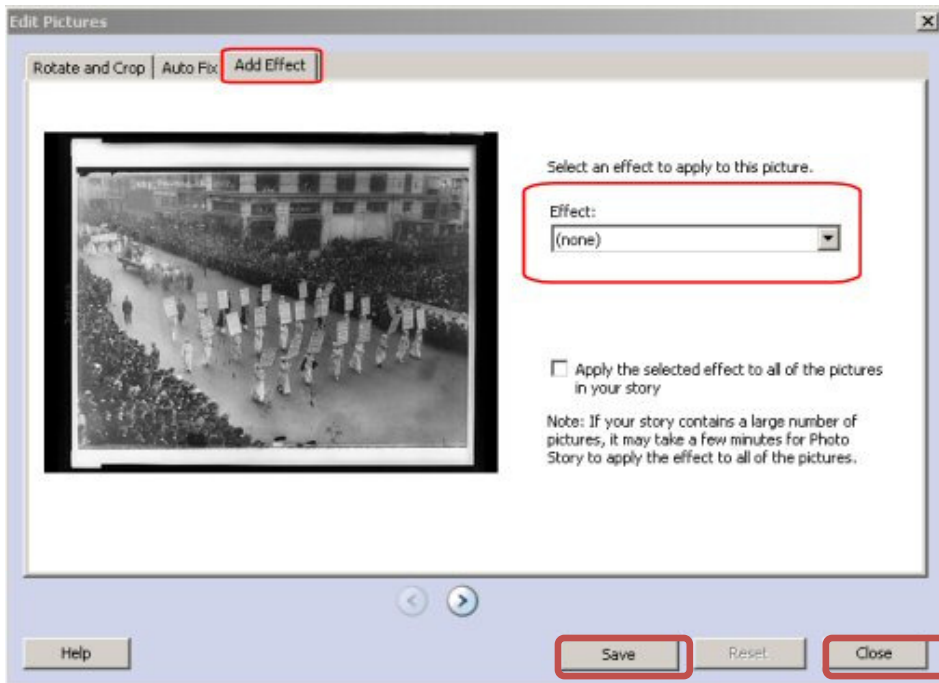
Once you check the "Crop" box, an area box will appear in the center of the photo. You can move the box around the photo and resize it until you get the area you want to keep. Once you are satisfied, click the **Save** button and your photo will be cropped to your specifications:



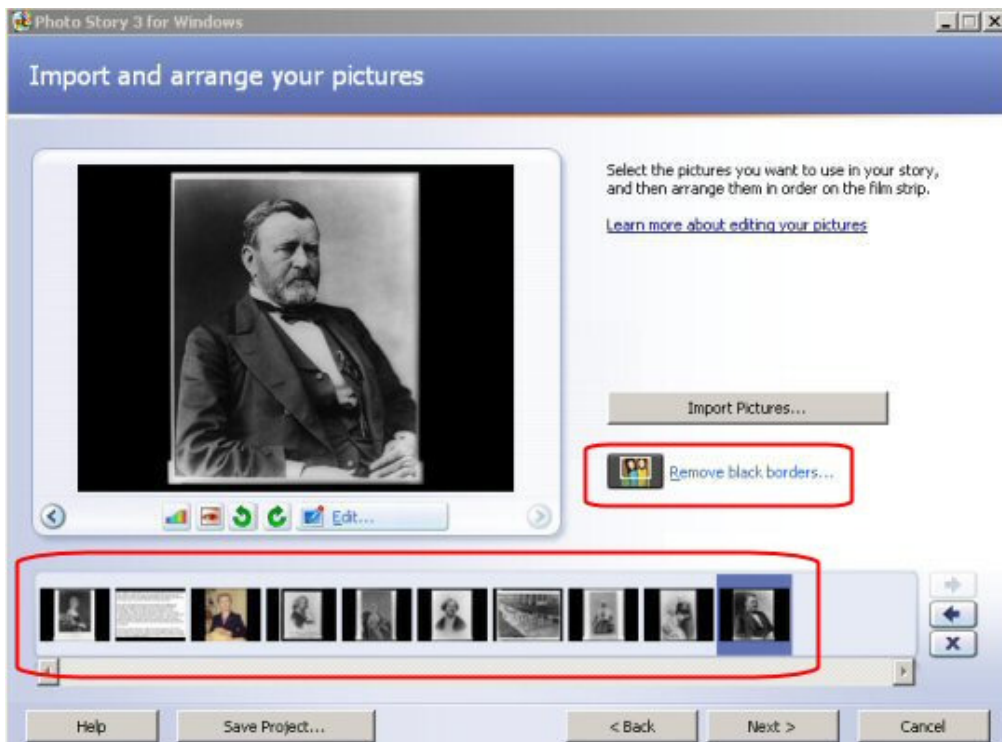
9. Autofix - By clicking on the **Auto Fix** tab in the **Edit Photos** window, you can automatically adjust the contrast levels, the color, and red-eye by turning these options on. Be sure to **SAVE** any changes you make:

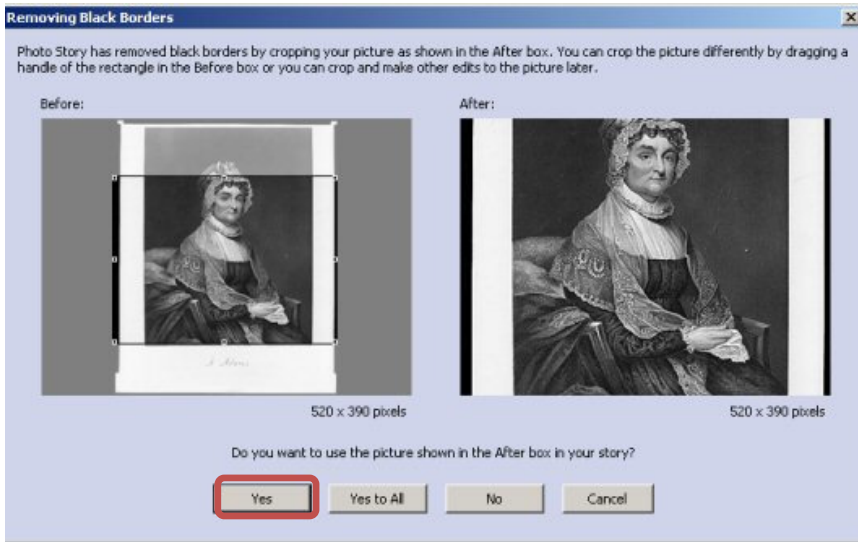


10. Add Effects – For example, you can add a sepia effect to the photos to make them appear "old." Or, if you have a large group of black and white photos and one in color, you may want to change the color photo to black and white so that it matches the rest. All of this can be accomplished by clicking the **Add Effects** tab. Simply click on the down arrow to open the list of effects, select the one you want and click **Save**. When you are finished, click **Close**:

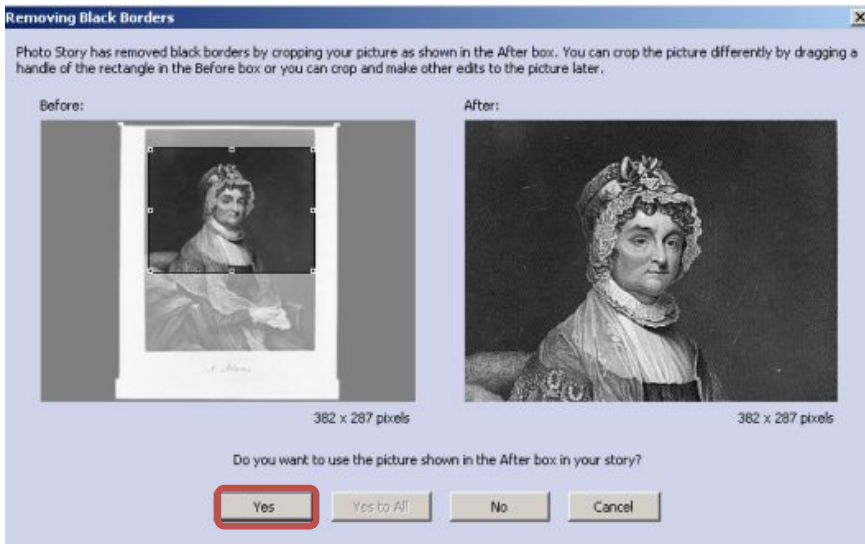


11. Remove Black Borders – Photostory checks the images you have imported to see if they are landscape oriented. If they are not, it places black borders around the image. You can remove the black borders selecting the image and clicking the Remove Black Borders button:

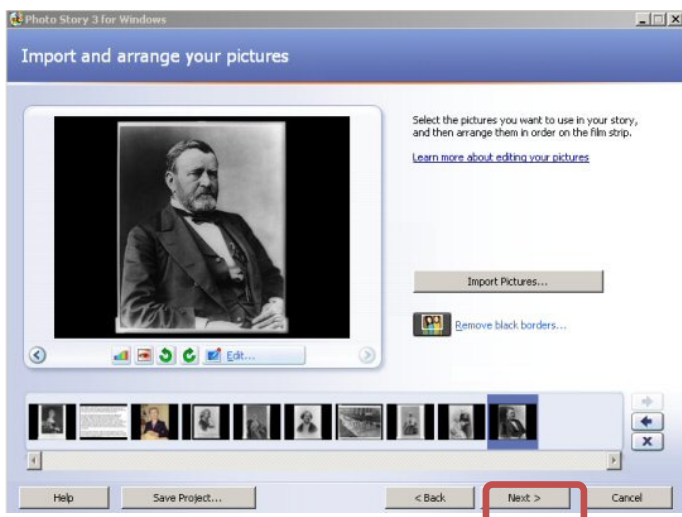




In the photo on the left, we can move the box around and resize it until it fits properly into the format space. The result of the adjustment is shown below: When you are satisfied with the picture, click **Yes**. Notice that you will need to sacrifice some of the "length" of a portrait style picture in order to accommodate the format of the video.



Once you have finished removing the borders, you will be returned to the **Import Pictures** page. Click **Next** at the bottom of that page.



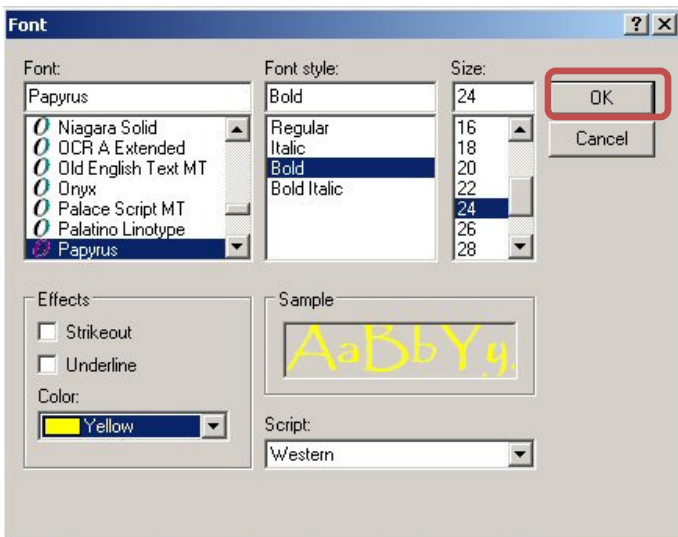
12. Add Title or Text – you can do this on any photo in your timeline by clicking on the thumbnail and typing the text in the text box on the right:



Notice that your text appears in black type in the middle of the picture. If you would like to change this, click the text button:



and when the dialogue box opens up, you can change the size, color, and style of the font.



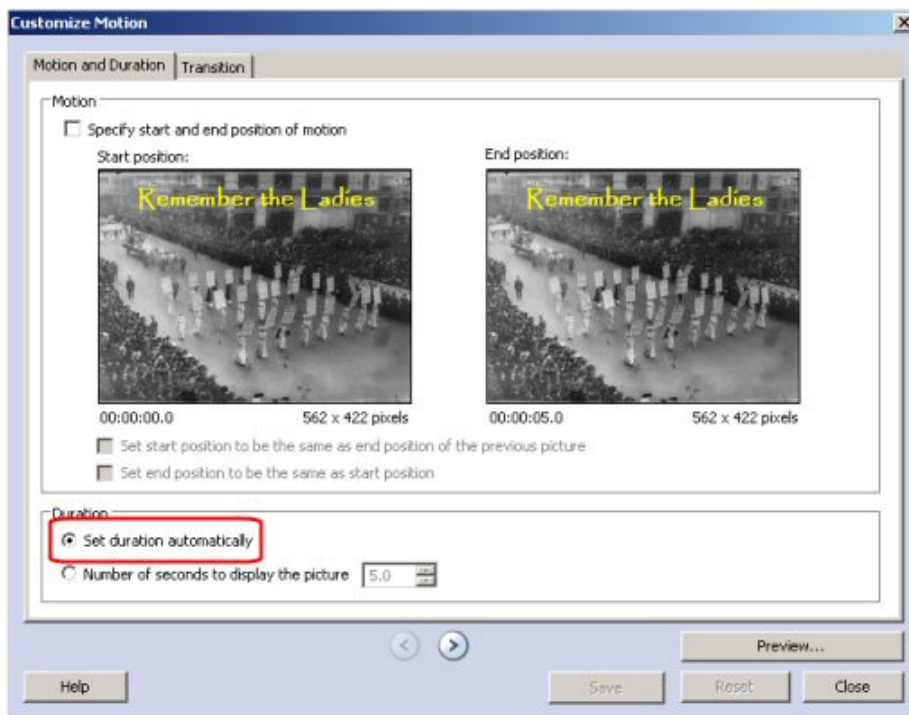
When you have made your selections, click OK and they will be applied. To change the placement of your text, click one of the vertical alignment buttons:



13. Click **next** to move on to **Customizing Motion** – with Photostory, you can pan and zoom and add transitions from one image to the next. On the **Narrate Your Pictures** page, make sure the first picture in the timeline is selected, then click on the **Customize Motion** button:

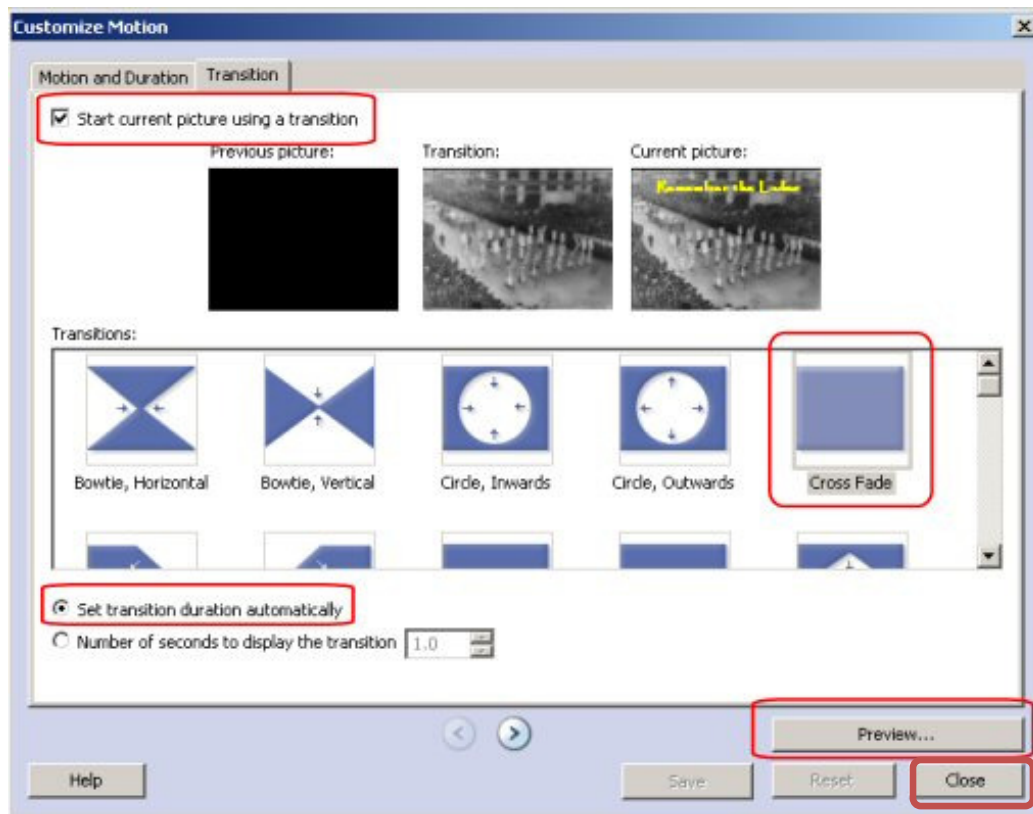


The dialogue box will open up to the Motion and Duration Tab. When you check the "Specify start and end position of motion" box, you can set the start and end points of your motion in the two boxes that are presented. If you want to zoom in, start with a full size image on the left and then reduce the size of the box on the right. If you want to zoom out, do the opposite: start with a small box on the left and move to a full size image on the right. You can move the boxes around by clicking and dragging them. You can resize the boxes by grabbing a handle and dragging from the corners to the middle.



Although you can manually set the length of the duration, I **STRONGLY** recommend that you select the **Set duration** automatically option if you are going to add narration. When you record your narration, Photo Story will automatically adjust the duration of the motion to the length of the narration. Otherwise, you'll have to do it manually and this can be a tedious process. Let Photo Story do the work for you!! You can preview the effect by clicking the **Preview** button.

The next step is to add a transition. Click the tab at the top that says **Transition**. A word of warning is in order here: transitions, when overdone, can be as annoying as animated gifs on a webpage. A little bit goes a long way. I recommend that you stick with cross fade or fade to black for the final image. No one likes to see venetian blinds opening and closing or images flying across the screen from one side to the other. Not good form. Keep it simple!! Here's the Transition dialogue box:



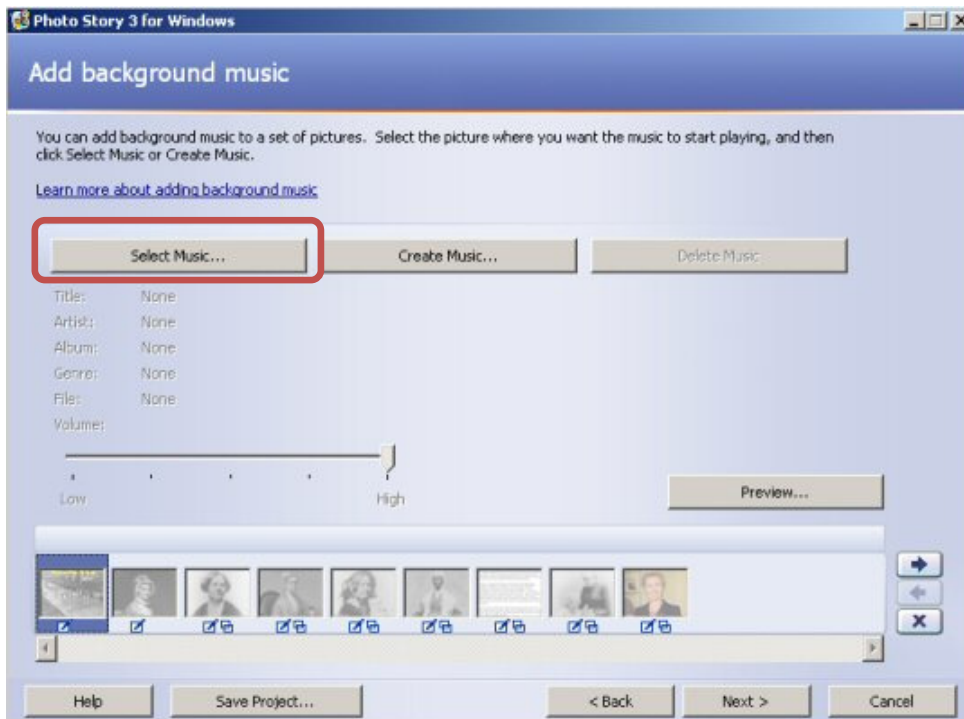
Be sure you check the box that says "Start current picture using a transition." Then select the transition you want (for the first picture in your video, I suggest using the default selection, which is cross fade). Be sure to set the transition duration to be automatic. Finally, preview your selections. When you are satisfied, click Save.

The program will then advance to the second slide. Repeat the process: customize the motion, add a transition, save it and move to the next until you have completed all nine images. When you have done all nine, click **Close**.

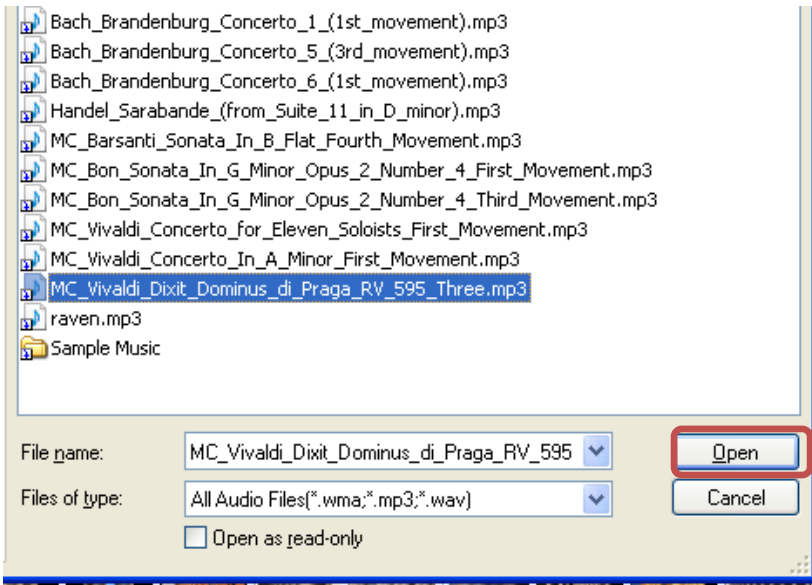
14. Add Narration - There is a text box where you can copy and paste the text of your narration so that when it comes time to actually verbalize it, you will have it right in front of you. It is best to prepare your story **FIRST**, then record it. To begin recording, press **Record**. When you reach the end of the narration for the first slide, press **Stop**. If you want to test it out, click the **Preview** button to listen to what you've got. If you're not satisfied, click the **Delete** button and try again. When you are satisfied with the narration for the first slide, select the second slide and repeat the process. You can record up to a maximum of five minutes per slide:



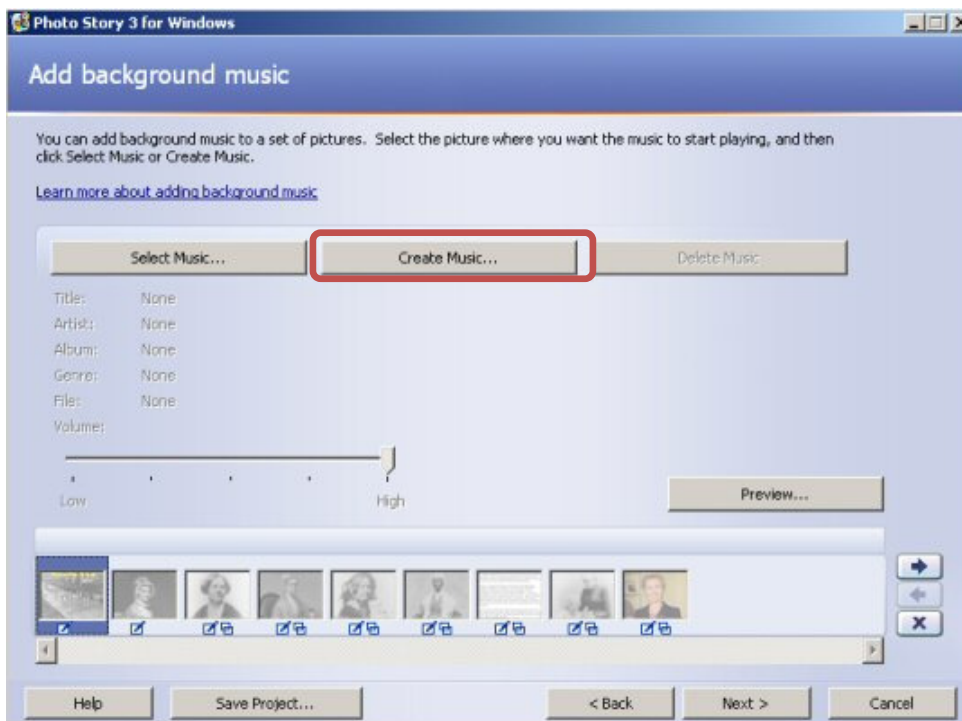
15. Click next to move on to **Add Music** - Notice that you have two options for music: you can either select music that you have already downloaded to your computer, or you can create music from selections provided by Photo Story.



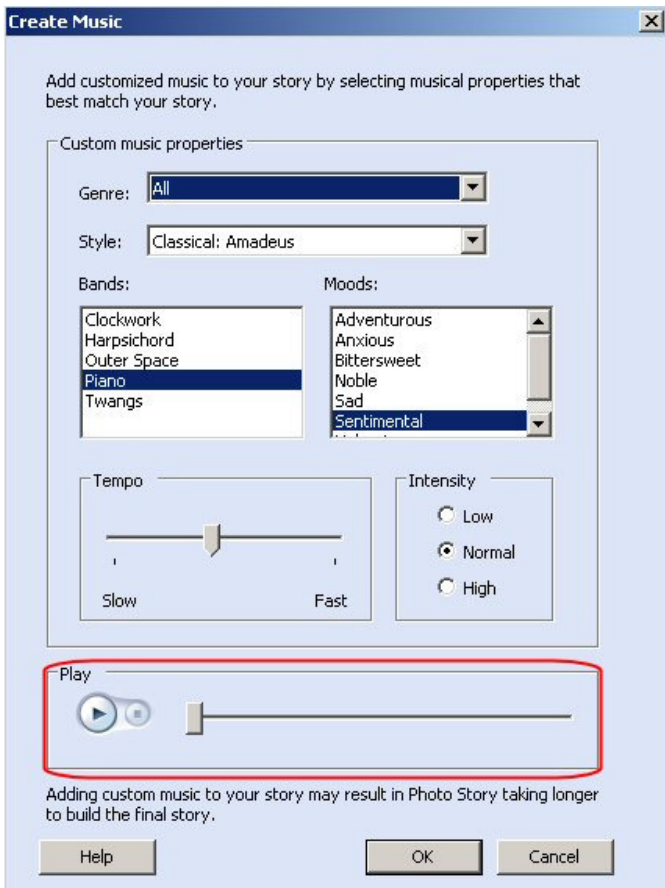
If you want to use your own music, just click **Select Music**, navigate to the file on your computer, and click **Open**:



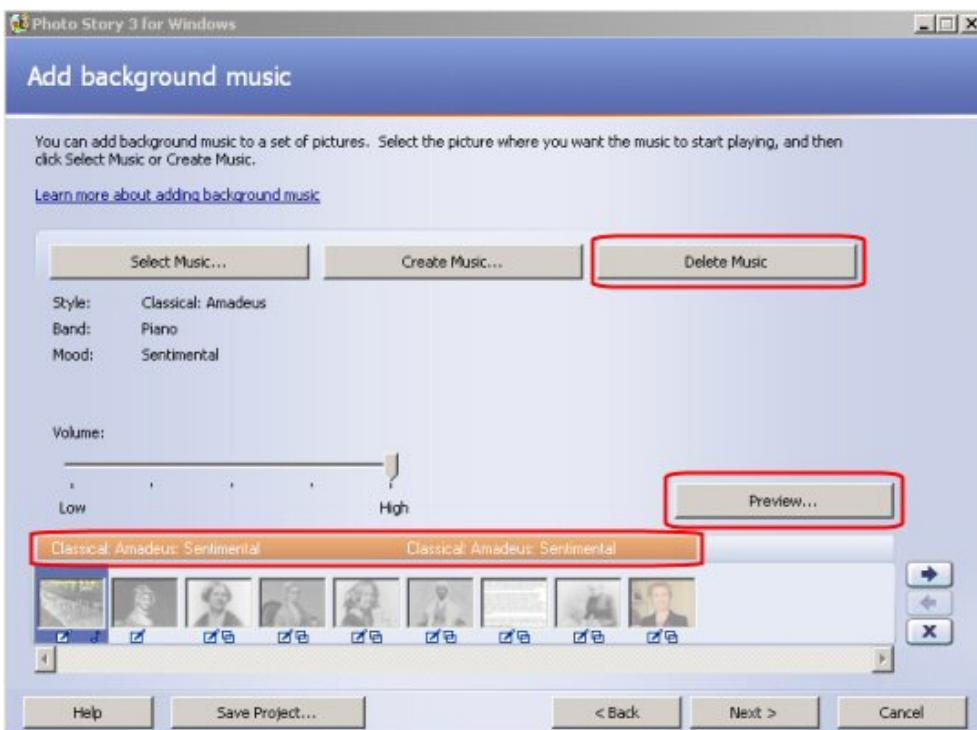
If you want to use Photostory's music, click **Create Music**:



To begin, select the first image where you want the music to begin playing. For our story, we want the music to start when the first image is displayed, so we'll select the first image (click once on it to select it) and then click the **Create Music** button.



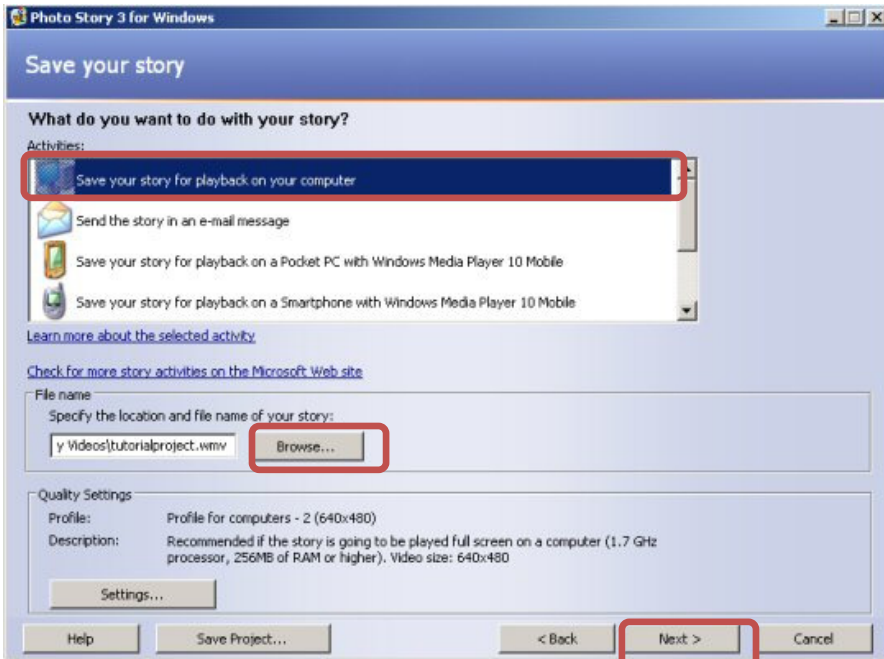
Select the genre, style, band, mood, tempo and intensity that suit your piece. To test out your choices, press **Play**. When you're satisfied with your choices, press **OK**. Once you press OK, the music is added to your piece and is shown by a bar above the image timeline. Notice that Photo Story automatically adjusts the length of the piece to the length of your story:



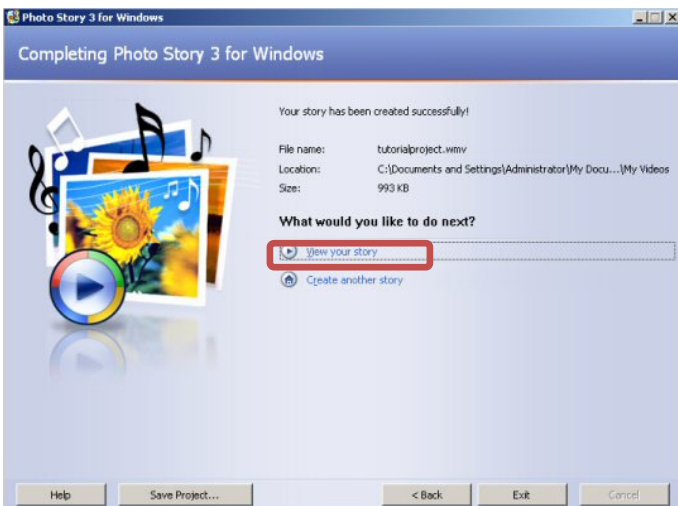
This is a good time to preview your project. Be sure the first slide is selected so it will play from the beginning, then click the **Preview** button and watch the show. If you decide you don't like your music choice after all, just click the **Delete Music** button and start over selecting music for your piece.

16. Save your project – Click the **Save Project** button (which you should have been doing periodically as you worked!) The project file (.wp3) is the file that you will want to re-open for future edits. The .wp3 files can be opened ONLY by Photo Story 3. If you do not have this program on your computer at home, you won't be able to open the file – however it is a [free download](#) from Microsoft, so you can always get it!

Click **Next** to proceed to the final step. We are now going to output our story in a format that is suitable for viewing. Photostory gives you a lot of choices:



Choose **Save your story for playback on your computer**. Next, click **Browse** to select the location where you want to save your project. Click **Next** and be patient – your video is being “rendered” – which can be a lengthy process. You will see a series of screens that document the progress that is being made. Here is the final screen:



17. Click View your story to see your masterpiece! Congratulations – you did it!