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Visual Literacy

Visual Reading of Photo from Photo Essay

This visual reading is on the fifth photo in the photo essay, where the yellow playing piece is in focus and part of the board game along with other playing pieces are around it but blurred. This was actually the last photo I took of my friends playing that particular board game. Before I got this shot, I had longer shots of my friends playing, birds-eye-view shots of the game, and close ups of my friend's hand moving a playing piece, but none of those captured what I wanted for that game. So I stood next to the table, bent over, slanted my camera slightly downwards, and put the focus completely on that one playing piece.

This photo has a shallow depth of field because the focus is only on the yellow piece. The camera is angled slightly down because I wanted to have at least part of the rest of the board game in the background. I also made sure to have my friend's hand in the background so there was a human presence and it felt like people were actually playing the game. This photo is vertical because the game piece is vertical so it made sense for me to frame it that way. Also, this photo has very bright colors which stand out in our photo essay because most of the other photos have dull, muted colors. I felt it was important to include a pop of color near the end so viewers did not have to look at only muted colors.