

NATURAL LOOK FOR 3RD GRADE

A monologue written by
Sidney Mullis

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FADE IN:

INT. GIRL'S BEDROOM OF MIDDLE CLASS SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS (2014)
— EARLY AFTERNOON

Young girl sits atop her purple bed with worn-out makeup cases and powder-clogged brushes spread around her. Pillows embroidered with the word "princess" are in view behind her leaning against her bedroom wall, which is covered in a mess of magazine cutouts and stickers.

Chloe, eight-and-a-half years old, has her hair in a low side-ponytail and fingernails painted to match her t-shirt. Filming a video for her Youtube channel, a camera is propped up onto her bed. Chloe sits too close to the camera smiling eagerly into it. The audience's view is that of the camera's lens.

CHLOE

Hey guys! It's Chloe. Today we're gonna do a makeup tutorial on the everyday natural look for 3rd grade. Okay. This is a routine that I do quite often when I just want a little bit of makeup. So! Let's get started!

So, it's all drugstore. And, it's very lightweight, easy, everyday, and affordable for you guys.

Chloe giggles excitedly as she picks up her Rimmel® powder case. It's plastic top is cracked down the middle. She holds it too close to the camera blurring the text on the case label.

So I'm using this powder from Rimmel®. I'm gonna be taking this and putting it alllllll over my face. And I'll use the sponge that comes with it. I use this because it blurs my imperfections.

Chloe giggles excitedly as she picks up her Rimmel® powder case. It's plastic top is cracked down the middle. She holds it too close to the camera blurring the text on the case label.

I'm gonna spread like this and get it nice and even cause we don't want it to look like it's all cakey. We gotta make sure it's nice and blended in.

(cont'd) (asks the camera)
 See? And just go. Just go like that on it. Do it all around your face. Make sure you don't put the powder on your lips. I think it is made of some water, some milk, and some dirt.

It's lighter than my skin tone, so that's verrrrrrry good. When you use it, you're gonna want it lighter than your skin tone. So, just put it all over your face! So ya!

Chloe drops the sponge and powder back onto the bed. Before moving on, she pauses. She looks back up at the camera in earnest.

I just want to give you guys a quick little note about concealer. Do not go overboard with concealer. Especially when you are young because all of you have beautiful skin and you don't, like, need to go overboard with concealer or foundation or really anything. So just keep your concealer to a minimum.

Now that she has addressed the potential misuse of concealer, her excited and giggly persona returns. She picks up a makeup brush and another palette.

Next, you should put some cheek stuff on. We are gonna use this blush from CoverGirl®. And we are gonna use this brush.

(applies blush, leans into camera)
 This is how you put the blush on. Rub the brush around a little bit and rub it on your cheeks. Rub it on the part where your cheeks go up when you smile. Just go on your cheekbone all the way up. Make sure you get it nice and even on both sides. But you don't want it to be too dark. There. Like that. Yea, so you don't want it too dark.

Gives my cheekbones more of a little natural look. And, apply delicately! You don't want it too pink either because this is natural. We are trying to make it natural. Now I'm gonna move onto my eye shadow!

She exchanges the brush and blush for a handful of large-sized, candy-colored eye shadow palettes. She fans them out like a deck of cards.

(cont'd)

These colors are good for at night.
These colors are good for in the day,
but you are goin' to a fancy place. If
you want to do a little bit of a pinky
look, you could choose this one or this
one. Kay, I'm using this purple.

She discards the eye shadow palettes, but one. She opens the lid and begins to demonstrate for the camera.

I am gonna use my ring finger because
it is the gentlest finger that you
have. And I am just gonna spread it in.

Since we're gonna be in school, you
always just want to have a nice little
vibrant look. So you never wanna like,
I don't know, just like doll.

(grabs small brush)

I'll just add matte brown eye shadow
to, like, add more depth to my eyes. I
am gonna use a brush. You can use any
brush, like...and I will like start on my
crease. So just take that and put it a
little higher and blend it.

We are not using eyeliner today because
it's gonna be too dramatic and remember
we are trying to do the natural look.
You shouldn't be using that much
makeup, sooo ya!

Chloe drops the palette and brown-stained brush back into the mess of makeup on her bed. She licks her purple-tipped ring finger and rubs the remaining purple eye shadow off with her shirt. She picks up the biggest palette yet – a nude-colored, glossy rectangle.

I'm gonna be taking my Naked© palette
and we're gonna be moving on to this
color. We are gonna be putting it all
over our lid and brow bone.

She pauses looking confused.

What did I just say? I meant on our
inner corner and brow bone!

She finishes up blending and does an overall check of her progress.

(cont'd)

You can try makeup anytime you want,
any day. You can wear makeup any kind
of place you want. I just don't want it
to show that much cause I'm only a kid.

She exchanges again for a white pencil. Its top cover is missing, so
purple string from her bed comforter is stuck to it.

I am gonna put the white on the brow
bone. Because I am a little girl, I
will add some of this to, like, make
my, like, extra hair from my brows to
disappear for a little bit because I
can't remove it. You never want a whole
lot of white on your brow bone because
you will look so silly. You'll look
like a geek. I don't think anybody
wants to do that. So, you want to use a
little bit of white on your brow bone.
So now that you're done with the eye
shadow and it looks like that, you just
want to go and take this thing...I forgot
to show you guys that you are going to
need this.

Chloe digs in her blankets for a large, hot pink wand of mascara primer
and presents it to the camera.

It's clear and this just separates your
eyelashes and acts like a primer. And
then use your mascara.

In her other hand, Chloe displays a bright green tube of waterproof
Maybelline New York® mascara to the camera. Mascara being her *second*
favorite, Chloe's eyes focus on the tube as if it's an instrument of
magical capacity.

I am using this Maybelline New York. It
allows your eyelashes to grow. It is
really famous anywhere.

She applies the primer and mascara. Her mouth opens into an "O" shape that
remains stretched on her face until she finishes.

Make sure you put a lot of mascara. I'm
applying it to my top lashes. Now the
bottom lashes. It gives you the most
amazing lashes. It gives you volume,
while it separates them. It's really,
really, really good.

Chloe tosses the wands back onto her bed and pulls a lip balm from her pocket.

(cont'd)

I really like a natural and really pretty look for the lips. First just apply the lip balm. It has no color. It's just a lip balm...it's just a lip balm. You should put a little bit on once a day.

Chloe tucks the balm back into her pocket. She holds an elegant silver-cased lipstick up to the camera. It is not drugstore, but Chloe does not comment on this.

For my lips, I'm using this dark purple color. Smells really good and tastes like lemon cake. It looks like a diamond. It's even called Pure Diamond from Victoria Secrets.

Chloe takes the top off the lipstick and twists out the garish-colored tip carefully as if exposing a diamond. She begins to apply the lipstick.

It has a teensy weensy sparkle in it. And we just want that to look natural, so just a little teensy weensy because I don't want a bunch of sparkle. I don't want it to be too glittery either, because this isn't a glittery look. Just put it all over your lips and blend out with your finger.

Enthusiastically, she exchanges for an over-sized, mint-colored wand of lip-gloss. Lip shine being her *favorite* favorite, she grips it with both hands, and, almost ceremoniously, offers it to the camera.

I'm gonna take this lip shine. This big giant gloss! Gloss, gloss, gloss, gloss, gloss. This gloss. Yes, this is the gloss I am going to be using. It's still from Victoria's and it is very minty tasting. And don't actually squeeze it. Just dot it. Just squeeze it a little.

(ditches the gloss, waves with both hands)

(cont'd)

Okay that completes the everyday,
natural look! Ok, bye! Check out some
of the other videos of make-up. And,
subscribe, comment, rate, and gimme a
thumbs up! Ok, bye!

(points downward)

Oh ya! Comment one product below that
you can't live without for a chance to
get a shout-out in next week's video!

FADE OUT.

THE END

Committed to grounding theory in lived experience, the monologue above was constructed from 12 different Youtube videos of young girls providing makeup tutorials for online audiences. After each video was chosen and transcribed, their words were woven together to create eight-and-a-half year old Chloe and her natural look for 3rd grade. The girls from the Youtube videos ranged from age five to age twelve. Their ages were averaged to determine the character's age. The 12 video titles noted which grade or age this makeup look is intended for, such as "natural 4th grade makeup."

My hope is to reveal the way in which the world is produced through constituting acts of subjective experience. Considering that "the" body is invariably transformed into his body or her body, the body is only known through its gendered appearance. The gendered body acts its part in a culturally restricted corporeal space and enacts interpretations within the confines of already existing directives. One is compelled to live in a world in which genders constitute univocal signifiers, in which gender is stabilized, polarized, rendered discrete and intractable. Believing that identity is instituted through a stylized repetition of acts, this monologue investigates the notion that one is not born, but, rather **becomes** a woman.