

Minnesota Writing Project

---Demonstration Lesson---

Title of lesson: Public Service Announcements (on behalf of charity) PodCast

Suggested grade/age: Middle School, 7th and 8th

Approximate time needed to complete lesson: 10-day Unit

Learning objective(s) and significance of lesson:

This lesson increases student's digital literacy as they learn to use GarageBand and create a PodCast. The lesson also increases student's collaborative skills as they work in partnership to write a Podcast Script. The lesson further increases students' persuasive writing and critical thinking as they begin brainstorming ideas, write in outline and final draft form, and manage their collaborative speaking to conform to a timeline.

Brief summary/outline of lesson:

This would come near the end of a persuasive writing unit. Students should also have completed writing workshops on paragraph writing, claims and evidence, and research. The lesson is a culmination of persuasive writing skills, as well as digital and publishing skills.

Steps include:

- i) Identifying problems and solutions in the world that are of interest to students.
- ii) Research charities and nonprofits that build solutions and compile credible sources.
- iii) Writing process: From Outline to final draft, prepare script for PSA of chosen charity in partnership.
- iv) Practice using GarageBand to create an 8 minute recording that could be published.

Related Resources:

(What technology, articles, books, or supplies do you recommend?)

- .Garage Band application, available for free on Macs.
- Google Docs so students can list the topic of interest for them; teacher can partner students.

Possible extensions or adaptations for different purposes/student needs:

For students that don't like to speak in front of the class, they could record their speaking for the class on a podcast. Students could use the Podcast in a marketing unit as a commercial, rather than PSA, persuading listeners to buy products.

For additional information, contact:

tristiwilson@gmail.com