



Elementary Podcasting Topics Ideas

If you teach the following, what type of Podcast (whole class or pairs or individual) might your students create?

Astronomy/Space

Students can do Internet research as well as iChat with local astronomy experts to get information for their Podcasts

Research links:

<http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/StarChild.html>

<http://www.windows.ucar.edu/windows.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/spacestation/station/training.htm>

Project could be a Podcast infomercial promoting becoming a NASA astronaut, or trying to "sell" a planet (as a real estate agent or a used car salesman), or role playing a newscast about exploring one of the planets or someplace in the solar system, etc.

Heritage

Focus on immigration to Arizona; students learn about their own heritage and how it compares to immigration to Arizona in general (requires students to ask questions of parents and other members of the community)

Research links:

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/globaltrek/index.htm>

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/index.htm>

Project could be a Podcast in which students assume the role of an immigrant traveling to Arizona or Bullhead City as their relatives might have done in the past

Weather

Students can study about severe weather, weather patterns, weather prediction, etc.

Research links:

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

<http://www.fema.gov/kids/>

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/eye/hurricanes/hurrintro.html>

Project could be a Podcast in which students pretend to be interviewed after surviving a hurricane or tornado, or in which they broadcast info on the local weather as if they worked at a radio station

The American Revolution, Early Explorers and Westward Expansion

Students study the American Revolution, the colonies, the early exploration of the US or westward expansion



Research links:

<http://www.pbs.org/ktca/liberty/>

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/series.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/colonialhouse/>

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/features/97/west/main.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/>

<http://www.pbs.org/ktca/farmhouses/homesprairie.html>

Project could be a Podcast in which students assume the role of colonists, explorers or pioneers and tell about their travels/adventures

Plant and Animal Wildlife around Bullhead City

Students take pictures with digital cameras of the plant and animal life around Bullhead City

Project could be a Podcast on protecting the Bullhead City wildlife

Kindness

Students develop a set of questions to answer about kindness and acts of kindness; students take pictures acting out acts of kindness with digital cameras or with PhotoBooth

Project could be a Podcast to share with Kdg, 1st and 2nd graders about kindness

Other ideas:

Art: There are artists everywhere so meet some local artists and tell their story using digital images of their work

PE: Fitness, who cares? Create a Podcast infomercial on the importance of being fit and how to accomplish your fitness goals

Health: How do we stay healthy? (Include interviews with doctors, nurses, etc.) Create a public service announcement Podcast on nutrition (portion size, calories, fast food vs healthy meals cooked at home, etc.)

Podcasting Resources

Copyright Friendly Image Sites for Enhanced Podcasts

Pics4Learning: <http://www.pics4learning.com>

Calisphere: <http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/>



Student Podcasting examples

From the iTunes Store:

RadioWillowWeb: whole class audio Podcasts from 1st-5th graders

<http://www.mpsomaha.org/willow/radio/listen.html>

Check out the Steps to the American Revolution whole class musical Podcast from this 5th grade class:

http://web.mac.com/denise_m_phillips/iWeb/Site/Student%20Podcasts/Student%20Podcasts.html

Check out these individual and student-pair Podcasts created by second graders:

<http://web.mac.com/kristincarson/Site/Podcasts/Podcasts.html>