

Lesson: Creating a Podcast

Lesson Objective

Podcasts are a recording which may combine sound effects and multiple audio tracks for an immersive experience. The combination of media, sound can turn a good story into a great one and emphasise feelings through auditory schema.

1. 6-8.2.2 communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats
2. 6-8.2.3 develop cultural understanding and global awareness by engaging with learners of other cultures.
3. SL.9-10.4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.

In this lesson, students will listen to a podcast.

Essential Questions

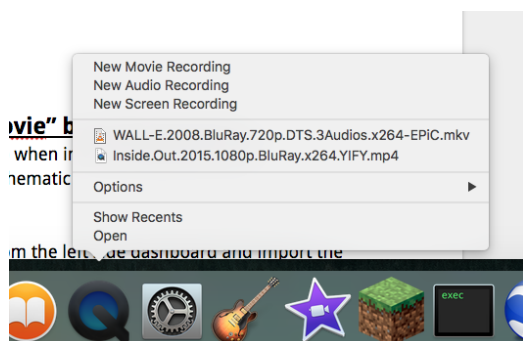
- What are some tools that we can use to record a podcast?
- How can we add multiple soundtracks together?
- Why does publishing our work help preserve our culture?

Activity 1 -Analyzing an Example

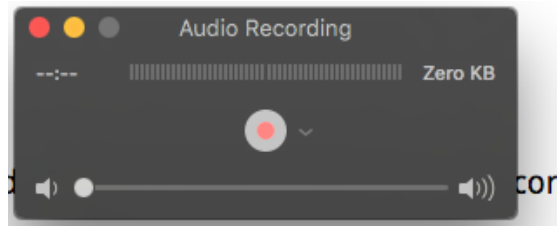
Listen to this sample podcast: [Strange, Scary, Liberating](#). As you listen, ask yourself:

- What sound effects did you hear?
- Why was the sound effect chosen?
- Did the reader rush through their reading?
- Did the reader pause?
- How did the community respond?

Activity 2- Creating an Audio Recording of your Story



At this point, students that need to access, "Quicktime" from their Mac's dock, or launch pad. Drag it down to the dock and right click and select "audio recording".



When you see this, keep the volume down to the far left side and click the red button to start recording.

Before students start recording, they should know the emphasis is reading with “emotion”. (English teachers feel free to jump in here). As students read, they should purposely read with rising and falling tone, slowness, long pauses for emphasis, etc. This should be done in a “storytelling fashion” to evoke emotion and feelings from the listener. After recording, save to desktop.

Activity 3-Layering recordings in “Garage Band” by dragging and dropping in media

Open “Garage Band” and create a new voice project. Garage band has a TON of features and I don’t want to have you spend a lot of time showing you ALL the features, but rather just some of the essentials.



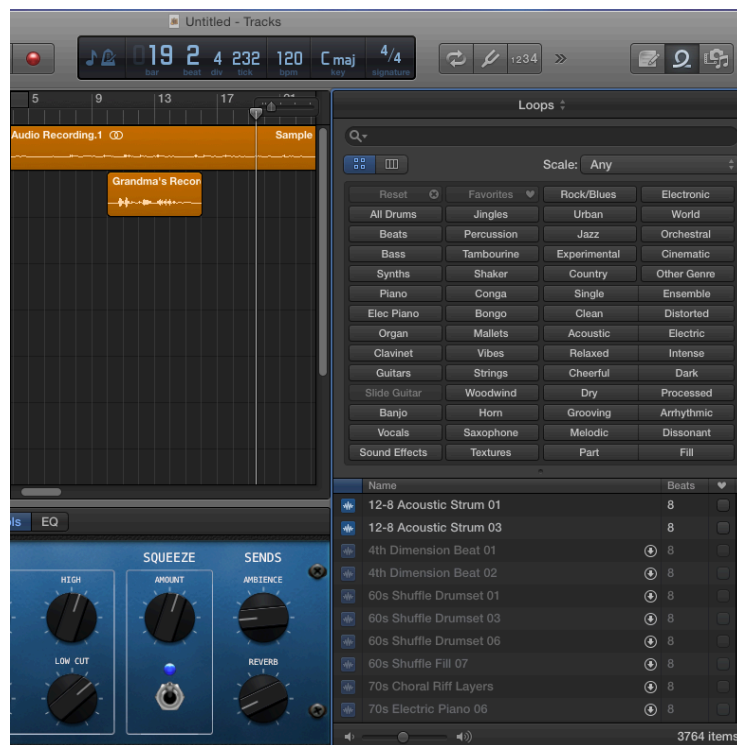
Drag and drop your audio tracks that have been saved to the desktop of your computer to the different audio layers. In the upper right hand corner, adjust the slider to see multiple audio tracks of you and your parents recordings. In the grey bars to the right, adjust the slider to make one track louder or softer as needed.

Activity 4-Adding Sound or Sound Effects

Now comes sound effects. Putting in music can spice up a digital story and convey emotions. The trick is that you have to insert another music track that may be playing at the same time as your audio recording and you don't want to have them "fight" with one another. When the two clips are side by side, select the slider in the audio track and raise or lower it to adjust volume. Before you start considering sound effects to use, let's consider this:

- What if I put a popular song on my podcast?

Garageband provides a lot of audio "Loops" that users can select to lay over other tracks all of these are free to use, (see image below) but there are some other resources you can use as well which I'll put at the end of this section.



Other Websites:

[Creative Commons: Search for Sound Cloud and downloadable tracks](#)
[Free Sound Sound Effects](#)

Activity 6-Saving your Podcast and Uploading it to Soundcloud

Now that you have your recordings, and sound effects, you're ready to save it to the desktop and upload it to the internet for sharing.

- At the top of your window, select "file" and "save as".
- After giving it a name, go to 'share' and 'export song to disk'



This will save it as an audio file to your desktop. Upload this to Soundcloud. You'll need to create an account (it's easiest to sign in with your Google Account) and upload your podcast.

- Give it a description, tags, and a category which will make it accessible

Extension: Grading and QR Codes

Your teachers may ask to show this off during "back to school" night. Also, they may ask that you convert it to a QR code so your parents can scan and access this from their phones. To make a QR code, go to this website, "[QR Code Generator](#)" and paste the URL of your podcast into the prompt. It will create a QR code that you can take a screenshot of and print to display. Cool beans!