

Student-Led Podcasting in the Classroom

A Teacher's Mini-Guide

Why Podcasting?

Podcasting empowers students to share their voices, practice oral communication, and collaborate creatively. It builds confidence, critical thinking, and digital literacy while giving students authentic audiences for their learning.

1. Start with Purpose

Decide why you want to podcast (e.g., share learning, tell stories, interview experts). Discuss with students how podcasting amplifies voice and builds community.

2. Choose a Podcast Style

- Interview (with guests or peers)
- Conversational/Reflective (small group discussion)
- Solo (personal storytelling, book talks, reflections)
- Narrative/Storytelling (scripted or creative)
- Informative/Documentary (research-based)

3. Plan the Episode

Use a simple template: intro → main content → wrap-up. Brainstorm topics, research ideas, or prepare interview questions. Keep episodes short (5–15 minutes works well for beginners).

4. Prepare to Record

Choose a quiet space (small classroom corner, library, empty office). Check background noise before recording. Keep equipment simple: laptop, tablet, or even a phone with a microphone.

5. Record

Free and easy options: GarageBand, Soundtrap, or WeVideo. Remind students: speak clearly, take turns, and pause when needed. Re-recording small sections is better than starting over!

6. Edit

Basic editing = trimming mistakes, adding an intro/outro, and balancing volume. Tools: Audacity (free), WeVideo (easy for classrooms). Add music only if copyright-free or royalty-free.

7. Publish & Share

Share within the school community first (Google Classroom, school website, assemblies). Optionally expand to podcast directories if appropriate.

8. Promote & Celebrate

Create simple cover art using graphic design apps like Canva. Encourage students to share episodes with families. Highlight student voices in newsletters, social media, or school events.

Quick Tips for Success

- Keep it simple: short episodes, one microphone, quiet space.
- Student-led: let them take ownership of planning and hosting.
- Celebrate progress: focus on storytelling, not perfection.
- Iterate: each episode gets better with practice.

Podcasting is not about fancy equipment — it's about amplifying student voices and building authentic connections through storytelling.