Book Recommendations with Podcasts

Summary
Students will be able to create a podcast in which they describe a book and the reasons they recommend that someone should read it.

Main Core Tie
Secondary Library Media (6-12)
Strand 1: Standard 1:

Time Frame
3 class periods of 45 minutes each

Group Size
Small Groups

Materials
iPads for small groups. Podcast creation app, such as AudioBoom.

Background for Teachers
How to use the podcasting app, identification and descriptions of book genres, reader’s advisory information, components of well-created podcasts.

Student Prior Knowledge
Have read more than one book so that there is one that they would really like to recommend to other readers.

Intended Learning Outcomes
Students should be able to demonstrate selection skills when looking for a book, have general knowledge of various book genres, and be able to recommend a book to other readers.

Instructional Procedures
Day one:
The teacher librarian introduces students to the concept of a podcast and provides examples of podcasts that are available.
The teacher librarian highlights components of strong podcasts (i.e. the presenter’s strong content knowledge, engaging voice and sound, flow of presentation).
Students will create a free profile to use the AudioBoom app on the iPad and then explore the different podcasts offered.
Day two:
Students listen to at least three podcasts and write down the components that they liked in each (fluidity of story, referencing of resources, layout of story, etc).
Students will then create a list or go through a previous list of books they have read in the last year. These books can be books they have read on their own or in a classroom setting. They should choose their favorite of these books to discuss on their podcast.
Students will create a script/storyline for their podcast and practice.
Day three:
Students will record their book recommendation podcast, following the details in the podcast rubric, rerecording when necessary. Students will be given the names of all of the podcasts that are created and choose five to listen to. From the five, they need to select two books that they would like to read and comment on the podcast about what they heard in the presentation that convinced them to read the book.

Strategies for Diverse Learners
Length of podcast and group work instead of individual work can be altered to meet the needs of diverse learners.

Assessment Plan
Student understanding will be determined by rubric.

Rubrics
Podcast Book Review Rubric

Authors
Shay Woodruff-Walton