

Using MP3s for Listening Centers Professional Development

Description: This website of Using MP3s for listening centers was created with Andrea Porter to assist teachers with teaching reading fluency. This site informs teachers, as well as parents, how to record themselves or their children reading and download it as an audio file on an MP3 player. This site also instructs on how teachers can simply download the audio file directly on the desktop of the classroom computers that students can access during literacy centers. Andrea and I decided to create this website because we used this technology in a real second grade classroom setting. Our district's WHYs program funded the MP3 players and we organized the audio books and hard copy books. Due to the high success of using the MP3s during our literacy centers, we decided to create this website during the Implementing and Integrating course and share it with others. We presented this website and technology implementation with teachers from two elementary buildings.

Impact: Having these audio books for students to listen to while reading a hard copy of the same book helps with one to one correspondence, strong reading fluency, and more important reading enjoyment and interest. By creating this "how-to" website for teachers and parents, they are always able to access the instructions and resources that they will need to create their own audio books. As the testimonial video stated, Andrea and I are always available to help and assist in using MP3s in the classroom.

Intent: As a team, Andrea and I intend to continue to update the website with new research and resources. We intend to assist those who have trouble by answering any questions that are e-mailed to us. We also intend to continue finding new ways to incorporate technology, such as MP3 players, to benefit and guide student success.