

Science News Broadcast

SCIENCE



Overview

Students research a current science topic or discovery and present it as a news broadcast, developing science literacy and communication skills.

Steps for Teachers

1. Share age-appropriate science news sources with students
2. Students select a recent scientific discovery or ongoing research
3. Students research the topic and identify key facts for their audience
4. Students write a news script with an anchor introduction and 'field report'
5. Students create news anchor and scientist characters in Puppet Pals
6. Students record their broadcast with professional news-style delivery
7. Create a class 'Science News Network' playlist

Example

A student reports on the discovery of a new dinosaur species. News anchor character: 'Breaking news from the world of paleontology! Scientists have discovered a new dinosaur in Argentina.'
Cut to field reporter character at a dig site: 'I'm here where the fossils were found. This dinosaur was 100 feet long—as long as three school buses! Scientists named it Patagotitan because it was found in Patagonia. Back to you!'

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing
Scientific Content	Accurate, well-researched information from reliable sources	Mostly accurate with adequate research	Inaccurate or poorly researched content
News Format	Professional broadcast style with proper structure	Recognizable as news with some format elements	Doesn't follow news broadcast conventions
Audience Awareness	Explains complex topics in accessible, engaging ways	Generally understandable for intended audience	Too complex or too simple for audience
Current Relevance	Clearly explains why this discovery matters today	Some context about importance provided	Fails to convey why topic is significant