



Spoken Word:

Spreading the word

Words with power / Teachers notes

Focus

This activity allows students to practise using digital technology to produce a radio broadcast. It provides a useful creative project for students who have studied various aspects of recorded sound.

Objectives

Students will:

- produce a radio broadcast about an event or scientific discovery.

Outcomes

All students will:

- produce a radio programme.

Most students will also:

- record a scripted radio programme with at least one voice.

Some students will also:

- record a scripted radio programme with at least two voices and possibly sound effects.

Equipment

- Worksheet: *Words with power* (1 copy per student).
- Access to computers or sound recording equipment with suitable microphones and editing software.

Running the activity

This is potentially a technically-demanding activity and students must be encouraged not to worry too much about the technical quality of the broadcast. A crackly programme with good ideas which meets the brief is better than a technically perfect one that is boring or inaccurate. Many computers are now equipped with microphones and these are adequate for this task.

Mixing and editing of sound files is more demanding. Apple Macs all come with sound editing programmes like Garage Band or Quicktime player (the Pro version is useful) loaded. There are a number of programs for Windows machines as well although these may need to be downloaded from the internet.

Ensure students have adequate time to create their programmes - and many will certainly be keen to work on these at home. Splitting the activity over two lessons may be a useful strategy.