

Booktalk!

Each season, Scholastic Book Fairs offer your students hundreds of new books they will want to read. Create a booktalking culture at your school by incorporating booktalks into library or language arts classes, or invite students and faculty members to booktalk at school events. You can even get your principal involved by establishing a special Principal's Booktalk Day for each grade level. Here are some tips to get started.

1. Select a book and read it!

2. Open strong.

Ask your audience a question related to the story: "Do you like to read scary stories?" Or start by giving your thoughts about a character you loved: "This is the bravest little dog I ever met."

3. Find a hook.

Grab the attention of your readers by talking about one standout part of the story.

4. Enhance your presentation.

Find an object that is related to the story or dress up like a character. Make your booktalk unforgettable.

5. Don't tell too much!

Your goal is to attract others to read the book, not tell the whole story. Try to keep booktalks between two and three minutes long.

6. Keep up the reading momentum.

Suggest other great books that are similar in plot or genre: "If you like this ... you'll love ..."

