



Student Booktalk Tips

- 1 Read your book thoroughly.**

You might even want to take notes, if inspiration strikes while you are reading! Make sure this is a book you love; if you'd rate it less than an 8 out of 10, find a different book!
- 2 Open strong!**

Think about starting your booktalk by asking a question: "What scares you the most?" Or start by giving your thoughts on a character you loved: "This is the bravest dog I've ever met." Don't start with something predictable like "This book is called..." or "This book is about..." Surprise and excite your audience!
- 3 Find a hook.**

Consider your audience. Is there some element of this story that you know will especially interest your peers? Perhaps there's intense magic, or an adorable dog, or a talented surfer? Think about the aspects of the story that made it engaging for you.
- 4 Don't give it all away.**

Think of this like a preview, not a whole movie. Leave them begging for more! End with a cliffhanger such as, "Will he get out in time?" Remember, the idea is to get them interested enough to want to read the book.
- 5 Enhance your presentation with props.**

Carry an umbrella for a book about a rainy day, or wear a cap for a book about baseball. Be creative! Just be sure not to wear anything that will muffle your sound, such as a mask. What you are saying is much more important than how you look!
- 6 Suggest other great reads.**

"If you liked _____ then you'll love this!" Think of a similar book which you know was a hit in your school or classroom.

Have fun!