Computing: Recording a Podcast

Aim:	Success Criteria:	Resources:
Select, use and combine a variety of software on a range of digital devices to create content that accomplish given goals, including collecting, analysing, evaluating and presenting data and information. Children use sound recording software to create appropriate digital content for presentation on a radio show podcast. I can use software to create and present digital content for a radio podcast.	I can choose and use appropriate software for sound recording. I can evaluate what features make good quality audio content. I can present audio information confidently and clearly. I can evaluate and improve my recordings.	**Lesson Pack** PC / laptop Speakers / headphones Built-in or plug-in microphone Audacity software downloaded and installed
	Key/New Words: Sound, audio, record, edit, play podcast, digital content, downloadable, rehearse, download, listen.	**Preparation:** Differentiated **Recording a Podcast Activity Sheet** - as required **What is a Podcast? Activity Sheet** - per child

Prior Learning:	Children will have researched, planned and scripted podcasts in lesson 3.

Learning Sequence

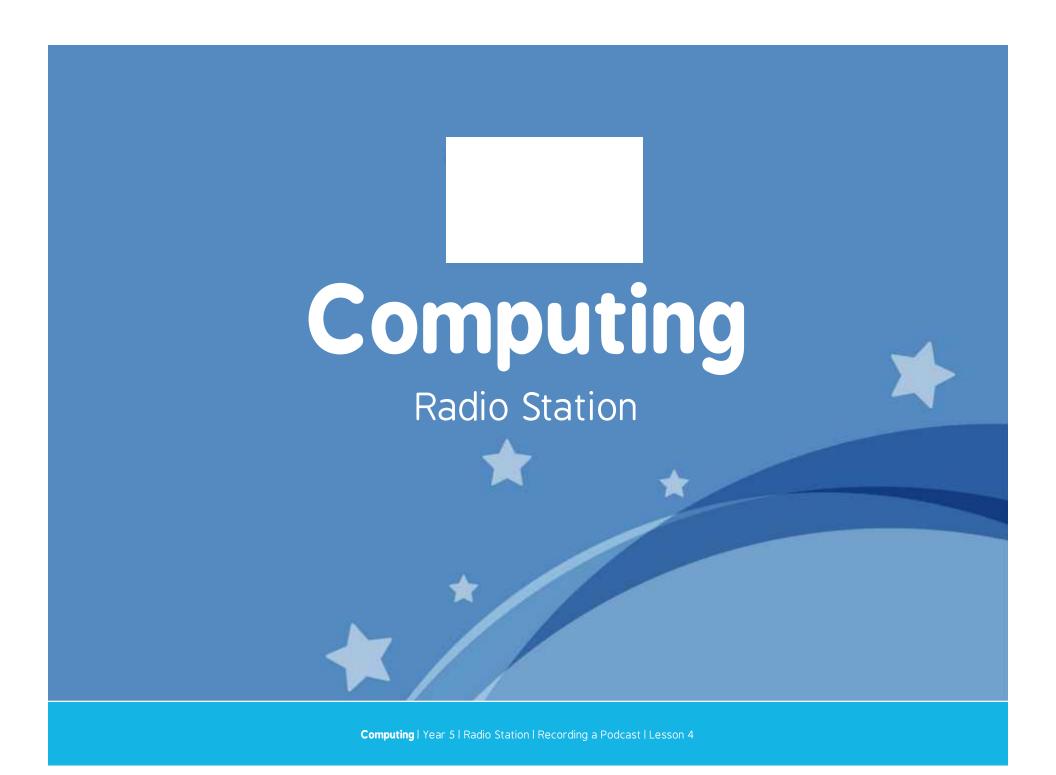|		
	What Do You Remember? What can you remember from the last lesson? Remind the children that a podcast is used to describe a downloadable broadcast or program (usually audio - music or talk; can also be video) in digital form, playable on a computer or mobile device like a phone or tablet.	
	Content & Tips: At the end of the last session children traded tips for making a good podcast. Ask who can remember any good suggestions. Collect ideas again Include: short, interesting; varied tone of voice. Include an appropriate introduction.	
	Introductions: Allow children to look back at plans from last lesson, then rehearse their opening lines or podcast introductions in front of each other. Work together in pairs to make it sound catchy and exciting. After some practise time, choose volunteers to demonstrate to class and appraise.	
	Your Podcast: Rehearse and then perform the rest of the planned podcast. Children refer to plans from the previous lesson for what their podcast will include. Allow time for rehearsing, editing and refining. Use Audacity software to record and edit sound files. ★ Using the **Recording a Podcast Activity Sheet**, create a podcast using the 'Recording Steps' and the additional content ideas for prompts. ★★★ Using **Recording a Podcast Activity Sheet**, create a podcast, aiming to add some of the extension or challenge ideas if possible. Complete **What is a Podcast Activity Sheet** if not done last lesson.	
	Download or Playback: Imagine being a listener downloading a podcast recorded in today's lesson. Play an example for everyone to listen to and comment as if hearing for the first time. What sounds good? What could be improved?	

Task*it*

Recordit: Choose another theme or topic to record a new podcast, suitable for a school radio station.

Downloadit: Find out if there are any school radio station podcasts that you can play on the Internet or download to listen to.

Interviewit: Choose someone to interview in school. Maybe another pupil in a different class / year or even a teacher or other member of staff. Plan your questions and maybe even record your interview for a new podcast!

Computing

Radio Station

Recording a Podcast

Aim

- I can use software to create and present digital content for a radio podcast.

Success Criteria

- I can choose and use appropriate software for sound recording.
- I can evaluate what features make good quality audio content.
- I can present audio information confidently and clearly.
- I can evaluate and improve my recordings.

What Do You Remember?

What can you remember from the last lesson?

What name is used to describe a downloadable broadcast or program, which could include video, music or speech?

It is in digital form and is playable on a computer or mobile device like a phone or tablet.

Content and Tips

At the end of the last session we traded tips for making a good podcast.

Who can remember any good suggestions?

Ideas might include: short, interesting; varied tone of voice and an appropriate introduction.

Introductions

Look back at your plans from last lesson.

Begin by rehearsing your opening lines or podcast introductions in front of each other.

Work together in pairs to make it sound catchy and exciting.

After some practise time, volunteers can demonstrate to the class whilst the rest of us are the 'audience'.

What makes a good introduction?

Your Podcast

Rehearse and then perform the rest of the planned podcast.

Refer to your plans from the previous lesson for what your podcast will include.

You can make changes too by editing and refining your content.

When you are ready, use Audacity software to record and edit sound files.

Use the Recording a Podcast Activity Sheet for help.

Download or Playback

twinkl RADIO 123.4 FM

Imagine being a listener downloading a podcast recorded in today's lesson.

Listen to an example and comment as if hearing it for the first time.

What sounds good?

What could be improved?

Aim

- I can use software to create and present digital content for a radio podcast.
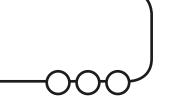
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Recording a Podcast

Preparation

For this lesson, you should have a plan of what your podcast is about and have started to think about a script to guide what you will say. You don't have to stick rigidly to the script. You can improvise so that it doesn't sound boring, like you are just reading out your lines!

Rehearse and edit what you are going to say. Think about how to make it interesting for the listener. If you haven't already done so, you may have time to experiment by recording small practise sections of your podcast. Then you are ready for your actual recording.

Top Tips:

- Keep it fairly short - if too long, it may lose listeners' attention.
- Make it interesting - choose your topic carefully and think what people might want to hear about.
- Use a varied tone of voice — changing your tone, pitch and volume creates a better listening experience.
- Always speak clearly and confidently — make sure you are heard!
- Include an appropriate introduction — let people know what your content is about and then stick to it concisely.

Steps for Recording:

- Make sure you have planned and rehearsed at least the first lines of your script.
- Know who is going to start and what they will say. Then what is the cue for the next person to speak?
- Click record, then wait a second or two before beginning. This will leave a gap at the start but will ensure you don't miss off the start of your first line!
- Agree how much you are going to record in one go and get ready to stop the recording a second or two after the last line has been spoken.
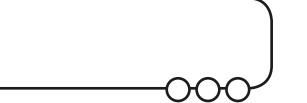
Evaluate and improve recordings

Listen to your recording. Write down two things that you have done well and one thing that you think you could improve. Can you edit or re-record part of your podcast to improve it?

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☆ _____

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Extra ideas to include:

- Tell a joke between you and your partner. Make it interesting and funny for the listener too!
- Include a web address (make one up) for listeners to download more of your great podcasts!
- Involve the listener by suggesting a competition, giving details for people to send their entries (make up a phone number or email address).
- Can you rehearse a line where you and a partner join in together for one word or section to emphasise or make it stand out?

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Adult Guidance

Recording

Children should have some plans and at least the beginning of a script from the previous lesson. This will give some direction to the recording. Reassure children that they do not need to stick rigidly to the scripts they have written. The podcast will sound much better if there is some improvisation and not just reading from a script. Making changes is part of editing and improving.

Plans and scripts should however be used as a basis for children to work in pairs to record their podcasts. Encourage opportunities to play back recordings. Re-record if necessary and the chance to listen to each other's content for peer evaluation, if time allows.

Podcasts

A podcast is a relatively new word used to describe a downloadable broadcast or program (usually audio - music or talk; can also be video) in digital form, playable on a computer or mobile device like a phone or tablet.

Visit BBC sites for examples:

(Note: Apple also have a Podcasts app to download to mobile devices, which children may have seen. This allows a user to browse many thousands of podcasts using itunes).

Remain careful of all digital content, particularly when searching the Internet and ensure for e-safety that school firewalls and anti-virus software are up to date and working correctly.

Software and Devices

Children can record their podcasts using Audacity, as the software is relevant to the whole unit. However, for variety, it is possible to deliver this lesson using any other recording software or mobile device including ipads or tablets. Mobile devices may allow children to spread out and find more quiet space to record, rather than in a Computing Suite.

It should be considered however, that if the sound files are to be used for future editing, they will need to be saved in an appropriate format and location to be opened by Audacity in future lessons.

Radio Station | Recording a Podcast

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