

My Book Voice: Teaching Book Talks With Purpose

Give students the power to share their reading lives.

Book talks are more than summaries—they're opportunities for students to connect, persuade, and celebrate reading. The **My Book Voice** campaign encourages educators to bring book talks into the classroom and share them with families and the wider school community.

Why Book Talks Matter

Having students write their own book talks helps:

- Build confidence in speaking and listening
- Foster authentic conversations about books
- Encourage peer-to-peer recommendations
- Connect reading to identity, voice, and choice

Teaching Book Talks With Purpose

[Early Elementary \(K–Grade 3\) | Beginning Readers \(Ages 5–8\)](#)

Students share short, joyful talks that focus on favorite parts of books. Activities include guided read-alouds, interviews, and “My Book Voice” recordings.

- [Early Elementary Student Template: Planning My Book Talk](#)

[Intermediate \(Grades 4–6\) | Developing and Early Adolescent Readers \(Ages 9–12\)](#)

Students practice summarizing and connecting with peers. They draft, rehearse, and record 60-second book talks, learning from models and class-created rubrics.

- [Intermediate Student Template: Planning My Book Talk](#)

[Secondary \(Grades 7–12\) | Young Adult Readers \(Ages 12+\)](#)

Students move beyond summary into persuasion, using ethos, pathos, and logos. They analyze peer talks, create persuasive scripts, and record or respond with videos.

- [Secondary Student Template: Planning My Book Talk](#)

Classroom Extensions

- Host Book Talk Thursday or a bulletin board of covers and QR codes
- Share recordings with families, school community, or morning announcements
- Encourage students to create response or “stitch” videos
- Build a running To-Be-Read (TBR) list from peer recommendations

Additional Resources

- [Get Them Talking! Using Student-Led Book Talks in the Primary Grades by Alida K. Hudson](#)
- [My Book Voice Project: Overview for Families and Caregivers](#)
- [Literacy Month Toolkit](#)
- [Advocating for Children’s Rights to Read](#)

Bring **My Book Voice** into your classroom this September. Share student book talks on social media using **#MyBookVoice** and **#ILD2025**.