

The Educ 3503 requirement is for each student to present a book talk to a small group of colleagues.

Book talks in DEF and STU will present a pair of books. Pairs should be carefully coordinated and may include fiction and nonfiction. Some ways to pair books include: sequels (two by the same author with the same characters); same topic; same author; same theme; same character type, eg villain. Pairs may be of different genres. For example, a picture book may be presented to illustrate background setting of a novel. Choose two that will enhance each other when presented and read in a classroom. Please present physical books, but if an e-version is available, please note its availability to colleagues.

When presenting, the time guideline must be adhered to in order to be fair to all students (12-15 minutes). Book talks provide a chance to be creative while working within the given criteria.

The following information will help you to understand what a book talk is and why it is important to learn to do book-talks well as a teacher.

Book talks are short, orally presented invitations to open the covers and read. They should inform and entice prospective readers. Book Talks are often used by teachers to introduce students to the literature of an instructional unit or to selections available for independent reading in classrooms.

A book talk **should** include:

1. Title
2. Author (name and a little information)
3. Illustrator (name and a little information, if appropriate)
4. Statement of theme if appropriate
5. Introductions to characters if appropriate
6. Introduction to plot action if appropriate
7. Introduction to topic and information if appropriate
8. Display of book
9. Oral reading from the book
10. Display of selected illustrations if picture book

A book talk **should not** include:

1. Revelation of the plot
2. Extensive information about the author or illustrator

A book talk **may** include:

1. Mention of other books on the topic or by the same author/illustrator
2. Mention of reviewers’ comments
3. A related artifact—eg a newspaper article or object related to some aspect of the text—a stone for “Stone Soup” or wand for “Harry Potter” or puppet/toy to illustrate characters, or a photo of similar setting etc.

A book talk **must**:

1. Attract and hold listeners attention!