Book Previews

Definition – a book preview promotes interest in a title by presenting information about the book in a movie preview video format.

Resources – where you can find book previews

* [Scholastic Book Videos and book Talks](http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/video.jsp?pID=1640149541&bcpid=1640149541&bclid=1557820328&bctid=1688353469) – the videos featured during book fair – most include the author promoting the book as well. Also includes “video book talks.”
* [Preview the Book](http://www.previewthebook.com/index.php) – Great previews, able to search by genre – includes both a children and YA section. It is frequently updated.
* [UCF Digital Book Talk List](http://digitalbooktalk.com/?page_id=6) - A good selection of user created videos. These videos generally feature young actors in video form – not still pictures.
* [Book Trailers – Movies for Literacy](http://www.homepages.dsu.edu/mgeary/booktrailers/default.htm) - A large selection of teacher/librarian created book trailers. Mostly for elementary level books.
* [Book trailers for Readers](http://www.booktrailersforreaders.com/) Good trailers – great for elementary and middle school – created by students, teachers and librarians.
* [Trailer Spy](http://www.trailerspy.com/book-trailers/) -– Interesting collection of children’s and young adult book trailers – of varying quality. Advertisements on site.
* [School Library Journal – Trailee Awards](http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/slj/home/892126-312/vote_for_sljs_trailee_awards.html.csp) – School Library Journal’s new award for book previews. Lots of different categories: different depending on who created them (publishers vs. authors vs. students) and what grade level it’s meant for.
* [Author websites](http://goingbovine.com/) - Example of Going Bovine author Libba Bray – check your favorite author websites frequently for interviews, book reviews and more.
* [Author websites](http://mt-anderson.com/delaware/) - Example M.T. Anderson’s Delaware site.
* [Amazon](http://www.amazon.com/Leviathan-Scott-Westerfeld/dp/1416971734/ref%3Dtmm_hrd_title_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1317839424&sr=1-1) – Amazon also features great previews – generally they are found on the author’s Amazon page or the page featuring their *hardback* book.

[Youtube](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5ppwMTErrc) – Huge amount of book previews of varying quality. Must be converted before they play at some schools. Example – John Green talks about Paper Towns.

* [Zamzar](http://www.zamzar.com/url/) – For converting files

Ideas on how to incorporate book previews

* Morning Announcements – great place to highlight videos. We feature a Friday book preview every week. They are also always immediately checked out after the preview.
* Checkout – When classes come for checkout, try book talking a few books and then closing with a book preview or two - classes love it.
* Class visits – Fill your jump drive with a few videos and stop by classes to highlight titles before they come for checkout.
* To promote new books – When a new shipment of books arrives, have a special announcement on the news and preview one of the new titles.
* Insert into lessons - A great book report project, have students create their own book previews. Or simply show one during the lesson. A good example is having a Raven preview during a Poe lesson. Store links or saved trailers onto a location that teachers can access.
* When books are made into movies – Use the studio created trailers to promote the movie. Remind students to check out the book before seeing the movie. IMDB is a great source for viewable trailers at school.
* Put videos on MC website – Highlight a weekly preview on the Media Center website – this is a great place to show student created videos.
* Have on shared drive for students to watch at any time – Students will frequently ask to see the trailers a second time.
* Display or signage in MC featuring previewed books – These books are checked out quickly. A sign that reminds students which books were highlighted previously or a display works great. If the book the student wanted is checked out it’s the perfect time to recommend a similar title.
* Have previews mixed with library announcements scrolling on a TV in the Media Center.
* Have one computer designated as a “preview computer” The previews can either be set up to repeat and students can watch. Or students can select the preview they want to see.

Places to Make Book Previews

This can be done as a collaborative lesson, a club activity or a Reading Bowl assignment.

Great tie in with art class or club – drawn images can be scanned in.

* [Animoto](http://animoto.com/play/Tweusmg3fMUBHv6oOToCww)
* Photostory
* Movie Maker

Media Festival – Book previews are a great option for a Media Festival project. They can be entered as sequential stills, and/or multimedia.

[Fair Use](http://www.ismf.net/resources/fairuse)- look at ISMF for guidelines.

Places to get pictures:

Google or the search engine of your choice – can use google advanced search to find copyright free images.

Getty Images

Online Encyclopedias

Places to get Music:

[Freeplay Music](http://freeplaymusic.com/)