

Audio-Books/Supporting Learners

Renaissance College Hong Kong (RCHK)

- RCHK is a newly established Yr 1-13 IBO World School
- international community
- capacity for 2,100 students
- majority of students are EAL
- English the medium for teaching and learning
- teaches Chinese - Standard Chinese and Putonghua
- SEN students supported



Audio-book Project



Rationale: to encourage and support language learning initially for EAL & SEN students by providing portable audio devices (iPod shuffle) loaded with MP3 files.

Action

- Purchase 20 iPod shuffles
- Write Policy for management of iPod loan to students
- Purchase MP3 files from Audible.com
- Collaborate with EAL, SEN & English Depts. re selection
- Purchase Playaways as additional MP3 format
- Catalogue files into Library system - visible to students via the OPAC
- Publicize audio-book titles and method of loaning.

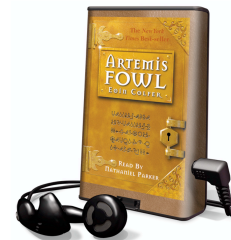


Why MP3 with iPod

- Popular format for students
- Compact and portable
- Files can't be scratched or damaged
- Able to listen on the go
- Able to purchase, store and load files on demand – total flexibility



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Findings

- Students excited about format
- Excellent support for SEN and EAL students
- Able to support English department set texts
- Other suppliers of MP3 format in a developing market
- Supports differentiation & auditory learners
- English Dept. thrilled students provided audio support
- Enables all students to access text and engage in Literature Circle discussions – draws in reluctant readers
- Great marketing opportunity for the Library - students and staff impressed with our ability to provide this emerging technology to meet their needs.

Challenges/Difficulties

- Deciding on type of MP3 player – iPod shuffle discontinued
- Sourcing MP3 format – <http://www.yetanotherbookreview.com/> & <http://www.audible.com>
- Audible.com restricts sale of content by geographical location – frustrating!
- Playaways expensive
- Copyright considerations



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