

Washtenaw Promise

Belief in the future. For every child.

MAKING VIDEOS Hints and Suggestions

Videos for children can have tremendous appeal in the classroom. Those made by UofM students are much appreciated by preschool teachers and students and are being used by throughout Washtenaw County and beyond. Project Outreach students have already produced dozens of fantastic videos, simply using the video capability of their cellphone. You will find over 80 videos here on our website: <https://washtenawpromise.org/videos/>

Making videos is easy, but before you make your first one, it might be helpful to consider some suggested steps in the process:

1. Choose the type of video you would like to make. You could record yourself reading an age-appropriate children's book, chosen and provided by us or by you. You could make 5-8 minute video "mini-lessons" for students 4 to 6 years old (or even older?) We'll help you with content and/or good choices on topics such as early reading skills, healthy foods, sports, science and nature, math, or a variety of others, including your own special interests. You might choose to make an exercise video, record a musical performance or present a game or activity to do at school or home. The possibilities are almost endless!

2. Let us know what you'd like to do, in an email to Tim; twilson@washtenawpromise.org and Amanda: amandajames@washtenawpromise.org We'll then invite you to a brief Zoom call to answer any questions you might have and offer suggestions if you need them.

3. You may find it useful to review the document; "**A Few Things to Consider When Recording Book Readings**", and "**Approved Titles for Book Videos**", both found on the volunteer page. They offer things to think about before you make any type of video. If you have questions, we're pleased to discuss them when we Zoom with you.

4. Complete your first attempt at a video and upload it to "**Folders for Uploading Videos**", also found on the volunteer page. If you have problems uploading your video, contact Amanda James Bennett. She will be happy to help you with the process. We will email you within 24 hours of your submission, to let you know we received your video and to offer some feedback and gratitude!

A few more thoughts:

- Videos uploaded to the Washtenaw Promise website will be available to the general public. Most often, they are viewed by teachers and students, however, they are accessible to anyone so we ask you for your permission to publicize your videos with your name as the creator.
- Most videos should be less than 10 minutes long. It's a real challenge to keep a preschooler's attention for much longer than that.
 - Sometimes, a teacher may invite you to share your video in real time, in her classroom with the kids. She may even invite you to join her classroom in person, if you like. This can offer more opportunities to connect with kids if that interests you.
- Please know that we will be available for you any time, to consult, compare notes and help you adjust the approach if necessary. The most important thing to us is that you have a great experience in supporting young children in our community, and we know you will. Thank you so much for volunteering with Washtenaw Promise!