



**Multimedia, Music & Technology: Interdisciplinary Lesson Plans
for the Middle School Classroom**

Lesson #1 Assignment Handout

Podcasting π

For this lesson, you are required to create a podcast (an audio file very similar to a radio broadcast that can be downloaded to a portable MP3 player or computer) about the number *Pi* (3.1415926535...). You will be using software such as *GarageBand*, *Sonar Cakewalk HomeStudio*, *Audacity*, or other sequencers to create your podcast.

Your podcast should fulfill the following requirements:

1. The podcast should be at least 3 minutes in length.
2. The podcast should contain:
 - a. A brief history of *pi*.
 - b. At least the first 10 digits of *pi*.
 - c. How *pi* is calculated.
 - d. How *pi* is used in mathematics.
 - e. Interesting facts about *pi*.
3. The podcast *may contain*:
 - a. Music written using the digits of *pi* as pitches (see handout).
 - b. Pictures relevant to *pi* (these can be imported to make a *vodcast*).
4. The podcast should be saved as an MP3 file by exporting the file to *iTunes*.
5. The podcast should **NOT** contain your name or other personal information.

For more information about the history of *pi* and other relevant information, visit the following websites:

1. www.joyofpi.com
2. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pi>
3. <http://mathforum.org/dr.math/faq/faq.pi.html>
4. <http://www.piday.org/>

For more information about making music out of *pi*, visit the following websites:

1. http://www.musoft-builders.com/links/pi.shtml#CONVERTING_PI
2. <http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/pages/puzzlezone/muse/muse0505.asp>
3. <http://pi.ytmnd.com/>