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## Prep for a Science Saturday

I gave a Science Saturday presentation on basic geomorphology of rivers in October, 2011. The presentation included a partial screening of *Planet Earth: Fresh Water* where I interrupted occasionally to show slides and discuss fluvial geomorphology.

Some general tips for Science Saturday preparations are:

1. Start early. Approximately 1 month before my presentation I was asked to turn in a handout/brochure to accompany my lecture. This meant that I had to have the general idea of what I was going to talk about and what I was going to emphasize already figured out.

2. Watch your film several times. You only have 1 hour to work with, so chances are you're not going to want to show your entire film. Watch it in advance and determine the most important clips to show that relate to what you'll be talking about. Also note the A/V guys don't like you moving around and showing lots of different clips, so if you can narrow it down to 2-3 selections from the film, that's ideal.

3. Prepare a basic talk that can be shown in sections to correspond with the movie. For example, my whole program went like this:

1. Introduce myself (what are my interests in general, why am I interested in rivers)
2. Talk about my research briefly
3. Introduce the film
4. Present an outline for the talk (in my case, we're doing mountain rivers, meandering rivers, and deltas)
5. Present briefly on mountain rivers
6. Play the section of the movie corresponding to mountain rivers
7. Present on meandering rivers.
8. Play the meandering rivers (and delta) section of the movie.
9. Present on deltas.
10. Play a review game (I made multiple choice questions and invited kids on stage to select the correct answer using iclickers available through the GPS Division)
11. Review the basic ideas presented
12. Provide sources of more information.

This format seemed to work well for me.

4. Keep things simple. I used pictures and movies instead of words and equations wherever possible. In this way I gave a qualitative description of what was going on without letting anyone get bogged down in math. Demos or experiments you can do in real time in front of the audience are great too.