



Kindles for Kids: The Effects on Reading Behavior

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Purpose for Study



- To explore the effects of using e-readers on elementary students' reading behaviors including motivation to read, engagement, attitude, and reading volume.
- The significance of the study is to determine if e-readers are a viable option for assimilating technology and new literacies into the classroom to promote reading.

Research Question



In what ways does reading on electronic readers during independent reading affect students' reading?

Theoretical Framework



Guthrie & Humenick (2004) in their meta-analysis of 22 experimental studies found that providing students with a purpose for reading, choices in what they read, an abundance of interesting texts, and time for social collaboration impacts reading motivation and engagement.

Theoretical Framework



- Palmer, Codling, and Gambrell (1994)
- Kamil, Intrator, and Kim (2000)
- Larson (2010)
- Siko (2010)
- Maynard (2010)
- Kathy Parker (2009–2010)
- Deana Isley (2010)

Participants

- Large suburban elementary school
 - 560 students K-5
- 41% minority students
- 31% receive free or reduced lunch
- 80 ELL students
- 38 special education students

I chose unengaged third grade readers and will base selection on teacher recommendations and observation.

Data Collection



- Observations/Field Notes
- Silent Reading Behaviors
Observation Checklist
- Reading Interest Survey
- Conversational Interviews
- Reading Logs

Grants



- Early Childhood Reading Grants – Target
- CCIRA Technology and New Literacies Grant
- Jared Polis Technology Mini-Grant
- Qwest Teachers & Technology Grant
- Back to School Literacy Grants -Dollar General
- Pepsi Refresh Project
- Student Achievement Grants – NEA
- Donors Choose

Titles of E-books



- Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown
- Magic Tree House by Mary Pope Osborne
- Roscoe Riley Series by Katherine Applegate
- Junie B. Jones books by Barbara Park
- Stink by Megan McDonald and Peter Reynolds
- A to Z Mysteries by Ron Roy
- Mr. Putter and Tabby books by Cynthia Rylant
- Capital Mysteries by Ron Roy

Titles of E-books



- Judy Moody books by Megan McDonald and Peter Reynolds
- Horrible Harry by Suzy Kline and Frank Remkiewicz
- Cam Jansen Mysteries by David Adler
- Ivy and Bean by Annie Barrows
- Time Warp Trio books by Jon Scieszka
- Encyclopedia Brown books by Donald Sobol
- Step Into Reading books
- Gary Paulsen's books

E-reader Features

Text-to-Speech

Variable text size

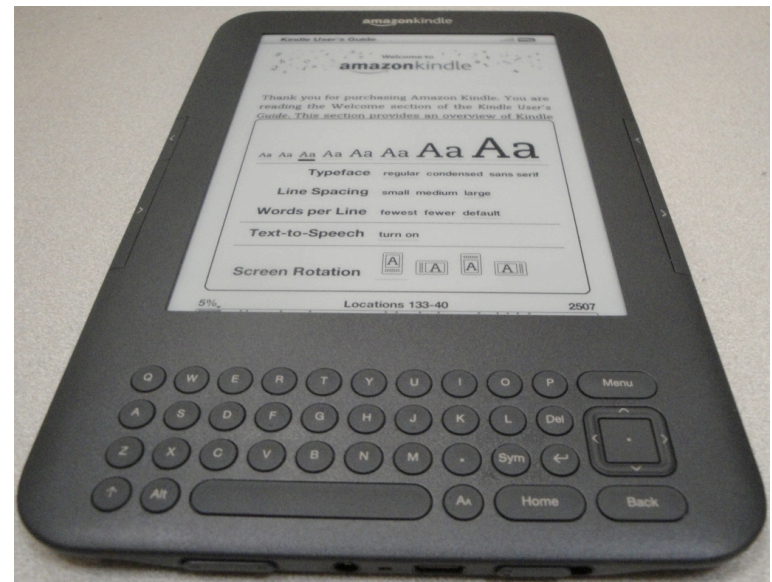
Built-in dictionary

Annotation

Bookmarking

Highlighting

Note taking



Kindles in the Classroom

- Striving Readers
- First Graders
- Heterogeneous Reading Groups
- Intervention Groups



Benefits



- ◆ Choice in reading materials
- ◆ Scaffolding for diverse learners
- ◆ Differentiated instruction

What kids have to say...



- It's cool
- I love the Kindle and I think other kids would too.
- Sometimes they don't have the books you want, but there are a lot of choices.
- I like reading on the Kindle because it is digital.
- It's like reading a regular book with buttons.
- It only has one page at a time.
- It is more fun to read on the Kindle

What kids have to say...



- I've read a lot more on the Kindle because I could read by myself.
- You read faster on the Kindle, it doesn't seem like such a long book. I like reading on the Kindle because it is electronic and electronic stores are my favorite stores.
- When you turn it off it is still on the page you are on.
- You just have to push a button to turn the page.

What kids have to say...



- It teaches you new vocabulary words.
- It reads the word to you when you are stuck on a word.
- It helps you get smarter and become a better reader.

If creating
lifelong readers
is the goal,
then every tool is
needed.

Beers, 1998, p.35

Ignite a passion for reading –
use technology!