

# Present generation missing out on thrill of reading



Reading is more than just something people do for fun; it's an escape from reality, a way to learn, and a way to grow. Reading also allows for the comparison and contrast of how we think and feel compared to others. Because reading requires thought, interpretation, and analysis, it creates an opportunity for growth.

As someone who teaches reading, I've become aware of how reading habits have changed for many students due to technology. Many students do not enjoy the tactile experience of holding a book, turning pages, and getting immersed in a story as much as previous generations did. Of course, there are many advantages to using technology to read, but I often feel sad when I see my students with their heads down, focused on screens, rather than enjoying

## Teacher Speak



the pleasures that exist in books.

Reading has an effect on readers that creates a much fuller experience of the stories and characters they read about. Readers can create a mental image of what a character looks like or the setting of a story by reading a description of it, which allows for a much deeper emotional connection to the story. Reading also provides the reader with an opportunity to absorb the story and connect the author's thoughts, feelings, and overall correlation to the themes of the book.

Many of my students tell me that they can't imagine living in a world without smartphones. I believe, however, that they are missing out on a world filled with possibilities. The smell of books...

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