

Mythbusting digital reading

Dispelling 4 common misconceptions.



Sora

Where students read

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The evolution of reading technology

5,000 years ago

Human beings began reading and writing.

550 years ago

The printing press was developed.

50 years ago

Digital books come onto the scene with Project Gutenberg.

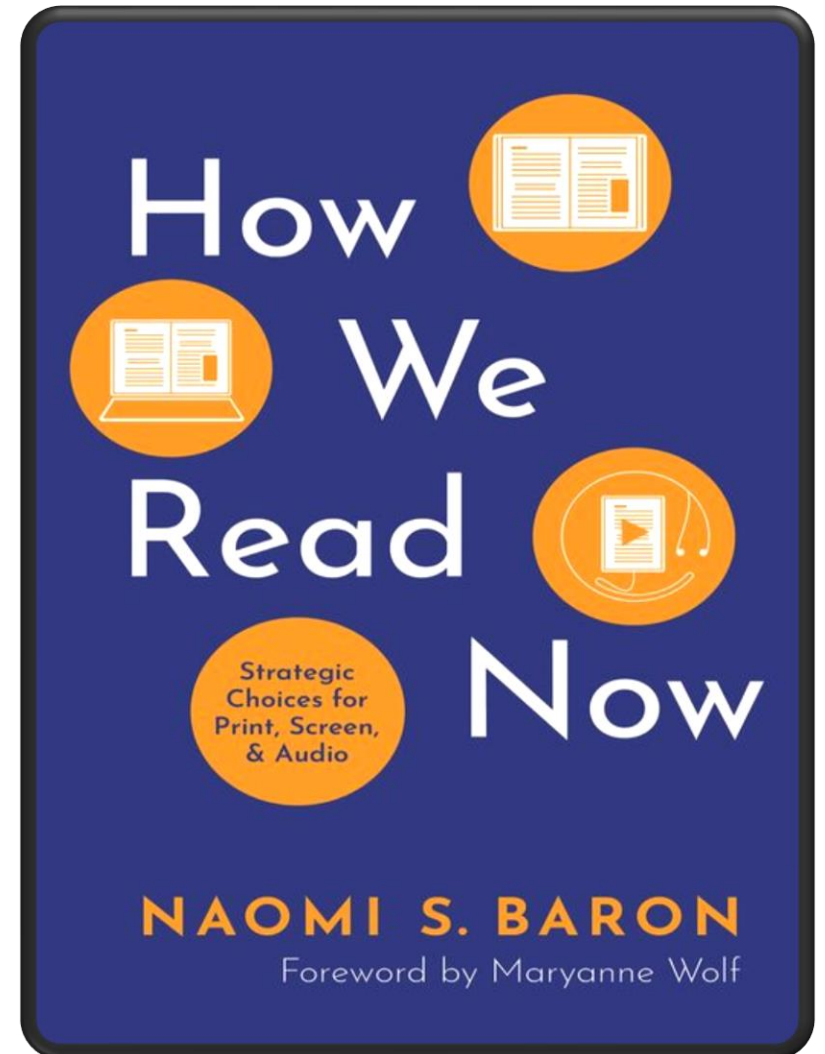
Let's do a quick show of hands.

*Approximately how much of the daily reading required for your career is done on a **screen?***

- 0 - 20% (None or very little)
- 21 - 50% (Some)
- 51 - 75% (More than half)
- 76 - 100% (Nearly all or all)



“...we may want to stop thinking of the electronic book for young children as a digital substitute for print and instead as a distinct form unto itself.”



**What are some common
misconceptions about
digital reading?**



Myth: Students already have **too much screen time**. We don't need to expose them to more in school.



FACT: There is a difference between passive and active screen time. Guided screen time benefits students. Most students participate in “shallow” reading (like scrolling through Facebook or Twitter) online.

Deep digital reading in a classroom context enforces good reading habits, making students better at reading and comprehending digital texts. If this practice is not taught purposefully, it's unlikely to be learned.



Myth: Print reading provides better **comprehension** than reading digitally.



FACT: There is **no notable difference** in comprehension between reading in print and reading digitally.

Reading comprehension is higher in digital texts that use **paging** rather than scrolling. **Reading ebooks is not the same as scrolling online.**



Myth: Students prefer reading print books.



FACT: Studies with middle and high school students show that **digital reading is preferred, especially for boys and reluctant readers.**

Consider that **each student has unique preferences and needs.**



Myth: Audiobooks don't count as “real” reading.



FACT: A meta-analysis shows no discernable difference in comprehension between those who read a book and those who listened to the audiobook.

Additionally, audiobooks provide **support for students with accessibility needs.**

Clinton-Lisell, V. (2022). Listening Ears or Reading Eyes: A Meta-Analysis of Reading and Listening Comprehension Comparisons. *Review of Educational Research*, 92(4), 543–582. <https://doi.org/10.3102/00346543211060871>

**Ultimately, digital books
help prepare students for
life beyond the classroom.**

Students are faced with...

- More digital reading than ever in **post-secondary education and careers.**
- **Increasingly computerized testing**
 - Exams requiring students to **read on a screen** include CAASPPs, ELPACs, SATs & ACTs
 - In May 2025, **28 AP exams** will transition to full or hybrid digital formats.

Now is the time for students to build deep, sustained reading skills...**but how?**



What if you had a solution that could...



- ✓ ...prepare students for digital testing?
- ✓ ...offer 24/7 access to books?
- ✓ ...provide equitable access to digital books across a whole school or district? (Or even an entire state!)

Sora

Where students read

Sora is an award-winning digital reading platform that ensures every one of your students has access to the right digital books to achieve their reading and learning goals.

soraapp.com

OR DOWNLOAD THE APP:



2021 & 2019 AASL
Best Digital Tools



District
Administration
Top Ed Tech
Product 2020



2019 AASL
Crystal Apple
Recipient



2019 Academics'
Choice Smart
Media Award

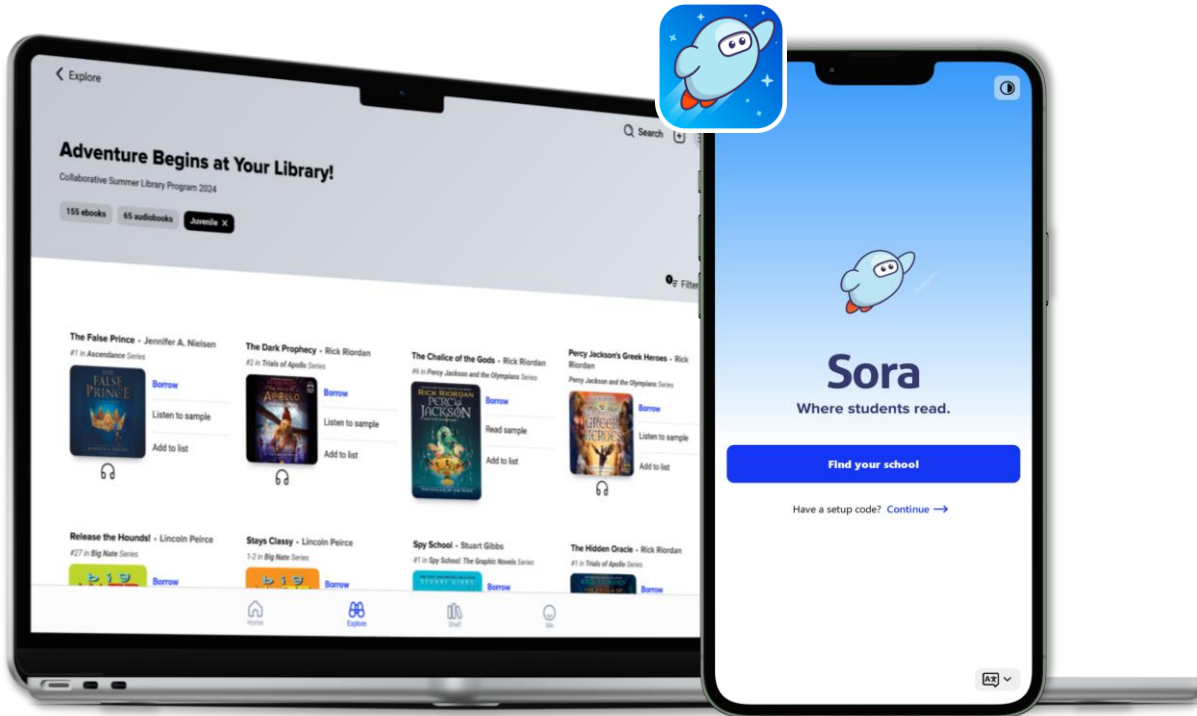


2021 Gold Stevie
Award

TIME

Time Magazine's
Best Inventions
of 2019

How does Sora make a difference?



24/7 access to digital reading



Offline access for downloaded titles



Multilingual interface (13 languages!)



Customizable reading & listening settings



Screen reader support



Public library access



Monitor reading progress and usage data.

And more!

Your TLDR takeaway for today:



Lean into digital reading

as an important part of preparing students for the world of today – and the future.

Stick around and chat with our team to learn how Sora can help!

Plus, don't forget to get your badge scanned – you'll get a copy of today's presentation and be entered into a raffle for a Sora care package!

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Where students read

Thank you!

Get in touch: schools@overdrive.com

Learn more: discoversora.com

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