

READING AMIDST PANDEMIC

by:

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Have you ever wondered how the days went by in just a blink of an eye? When did we last touch the rough texture of a paper made from titanic trees inked with knowledge and information? When did we last doodle on pictures from our books and let our creative imaginations fly?

With access to multiple gadgets and the internet and considering the now present Corona Virus Disease 2019 (CoViD-19), learning processes have now transcended from classrooms to homes, physical teaching to video provisions, activities to modules, and books to tablets. Learning might have been able to find its way through the harsh times. However, learning through the class is different from learning using gadgets. In class the mind can focus to learn through multiple devices. It is very tempting. Social media is just a tap away. Games are just there waiting to be accessed and the bewitching effects of internet access make the mind susceptible to distractions

Because of CoViD-19, the literacy of the learners has been greatly stalled. As previously mentioned, temptations are in every corner. According to an Article based on the researchers at Stanford Graduate School of Education (GSE) fluency in literacy of those affected by the pandemic is roughly 30% behind.

A headshot to future literates should be considered access to actual books is scarce. Access to online books is expensive. Therefore, the value of reading declines whilst the value of gaming inclines.

Educators are encouraging learners to read books - be it a book to learn, a book to entertain or a book to keep company. There is just no replacing the feeling of being able

to read a book and letting your imagination run rampantly. The realization that what you imagined based on the text is specifically made for you and cannot be compared to others is just so majestic.

Nostalgia is the remnant of what we used to feel. Whenever we open a book as kids, we prayed to the heavens for it to have less words and more large pictures so we can just look at it and understand. As we grow, we abandon those pictured/books for more text to feed our brains with fancy words. Jump to the present where books can now have moving visuals and voices to read for you. How the times changed so fast.

Learners are now learning alone - with no teacher to consult in front. No classmate to gossip with from the side, no friend to ask for a sheet of paper from behind. They are on their own.

If your childhood did not involve reading bedtime stories before you sleep, then you may be missing a story in your life. Go grab a book.

References:

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