

THE IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ON CHILDREN'S READING SKILLS

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In the age of technology, it has become a vital component of children's lives, influencing many aspects of their growth and development, including their reading abilities. While technology provides unprecedented access to data and diverse learning opportunities, the impact on how well kids can read is both exciting and concerning. As the twenty-first century progresses, young children's use of digital devices grows, as handheld and mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets become more widely available.

One advantage of technology's influence on reading skills is the ease of access to digital content. E-books, educational apps, and online platforms offer children a wide range of reading materials tailored to their interests and reading levels. This abundance of resources can foster a love of reading by providing stimulating and interactive content that traditional books may not offer.

Furthermore, technology can improve literacy skills by incorporating multimedia elements. Interactive e-books, for example, might have animations, sound effects, and interactive features to keep a child's attention and improve comprehension. These multimedia encounters can make reading more enjoyable and adapt to different learning styles.

However, there have been concerns raised about the possibility of adverse effects of technology on children's reading abilities, particularly in terms of distractions and short attention spans. The prevalence of digital devices, combined with the allure of

instant gratification from games and social media, may result in less time spent on sustained reading. The transition from deep, immersive reading to shorter, fragmented encounters with digital content raises concerns about the long-term impact on comprehension and critical thinking skills.

To mitigate possible disadvantages, an equilibrium strategy is required. Parents and educators can encourage students to integrate technology thoughtfully and purposefully. Establishing limits on time spent on screens, promoting an array of reading materials in both traditional and electronic formats, and cultivating a positive attitude toward reading are all important strategies. Technology undeniably influences children's reading skills, providing both opportunities and challenges.

References:

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