



CHILDREN, TEENS, AND READING

The reading habits of America's kids are dynamic and unfolding. Multiple studies show a decline in reading, especially in adolescents, and a stubborn lack of improvement in reading scores among teens.

> Many children do not read well or often.

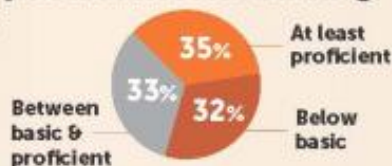
Teens who read for pleasure

33% **45%** say they read for pleasure no more than 1-2 times per year.



Fourth graders proficient in reading

One third of fourth graders are at least proficient (35%), and another third (32%) score "below basic" in national reading tests.



> A significant reading achievement gap continues to persist between white, black, and Hispanic children.

Reading achievement gap continues

Only 18% of black and 20% of Hispanic fourth graders are rated as "proficient" in reading, compared with 46% of whites.



> Ereading is changing habits and experiences with reading, but its impact is still unknown.

Families with a device for reading



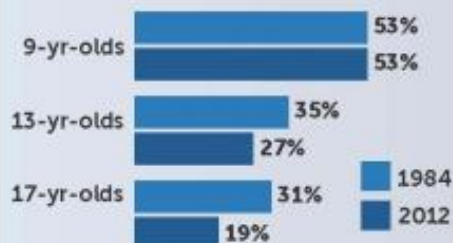
Homes with a dedicated ereader

Somewhere between 20% and 33% of children under age 8 live in homes with a dedicated ereader such as a Kindle or a Nook.

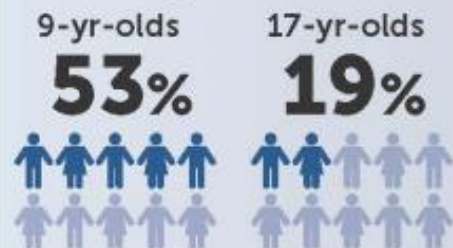


> There has been a drop in reading among all kids, especially adolescents, over time, and reading for fun drops off dramatically as children grow.

Children who read for fun every day



Daily readers



Say they "never" or "hardly ever" read



Methodology: This report by Common Sense Media is a review of the research on reading. It is based on large national studies or databases and charts trends in children's and teens' reading over time, their reading achievement, and demographic differences in reading. Common Sense Media also examines the growing literature on ebook reading among children, which is largely focused on attitudes toward reading. For more details on the methodology, key findings, and studies reviewed, see the full report at www.common Sense.org/research.