

This learning guide is designed for use by Professional Learning Communities, learning coaches and teacher leaders or as a self-paced study to explore how technology can support student success.

How is the nature of reading changing?

This conversation guide is intended to be used after viewing the video clip, **How is the nature of reading changing?**



General synopsis

In this brief video, author and researcher Dr. Dave Edyburn discusses how technology is changing the nature and experience of reading.

Key understandings

- Many educators, particularly reading specialists, are concerned that technology may be changing the nature of reading.
- When reading online, students are doing more browsing and are reading shorter pieces of text.
- Whether it takes place online or in print books, the basic nature of reading is about being involved and engaged in the text and being transported to new worlds.
- When students struggle with reading, and are denied the benefits reading provides, the question to ask is, "Could technology give these students access to ideas and information that they might not otherwise have?"
- As digital text increases, educators may have to do more (and maybe different kinds of things) to help students appreciate print books.
- As educators, we are preparing students for the future and we know that the future will be even more digital. However, that does not mean we have to give up print books.

Questions for reflection and discussion

- Did any of the statements in this video surprise you? Why?
- What are the similarities between reading electronic text and reading conventional print books? What are the differences?
- Is the basic concept of reading the same, whether it takes place online or with print books? Why or why not?
- Do students need to learn different processes to be more effective readers in digital environments?
- What role can technology play in helping students who have difficulty reading?
- Do we need to help students appreciate conventional print books? Is the love of books dependent on having experience with print books?
- What is our role in helping students prepare for a future that is even more digital?

Link to the *Learning and Technology Policy Framework*

**Policy Direction 3:
Professional Learning**



<http://education.alberta.ca/admin/technology/policyframework/policy3.aspx>

Acknowledgement:

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