Using eBooks and audiobooks in schools

eBooks, audiobooks and other digital content in libraries and classrooms continue to rise. English language arts, especially digital Class Sets, are in high digital demand, along with science, math and social studies. Regardless of subject matter, educators and librarians agree on the top benefits of using digital content over print materials in the classroom.

“Digital content has put a sense of adventure and joy back into reading. Students can read above or below grade level or read titles dealing with controversial or sensitive subjects without comment from their peers.”

Kate MacMillan - Napa Valley Unified School District

Top 3 Benefits of Using eBooks & Audiobooks

1. Customizable
   - Students learn at their own pace, and teachers can easily monitor who needs help and who needs a challenge
   - High achievers can move ahead as they like, preventing boredom
   - Struggling readers can take their time and utilize built-in technological tools to improve comprehension

2. Convenient
   - Accessing digital content is easy, available anytime, anywhere
   - Students can easily investigate an interest sparked by classroom materials outside the classroom, deepening their innate love of learning
   - 21st century skill development means students build confidence that translates to the real world

3. Engaging
   - Digital textbooks are constantly updated; greater accuracy ensures that students trust the content
   - One student: one screen creates an innate sense of privacy
   - Digital content offers endless discoverability with easy to find related eBooks, articles and resources

The same report found that students place a higher importance on technology to further their education and citizenship skills. eBooks and audiobooks are an excellent, approachable gateway into a lifelong relationship with technology and a lifelong love of learning and reading.

SOURCE: Digital Content Goes to School: Trends in K-12 Classroom E-Learning, ASCD and OverDrive