High/Low readers: Students who read at a lower level than their classmates tend to shy away from reading altogether. Digital content lets them read eBooks at the level they're comfortable with while having the privacy of others not seeing what they're reading.

Audiobooks for English as a second language (ESL) students: ESL students can better understand sentence structure and language flow by listening to audiobooks in English. Studies also show that listening to audiobooks helps with knowledge retention as well as comprehension.

Read at their Lexile level: Students (particularly ESL) can search for non-fiction English eBooks that meet their reading level, which likely does not match their grade level, from the privacy of their mobile device.

Class-assigned reading and book reports: Teachers can use digital content for class assignments and book reports and guarantee the titles won’t be lost or damaged. This also enables students to open up the eBooks on any device or computer so they always have their books whether at school, home or on the go.

How School Libraries are Using eBooks and Audiobooks With Their Students

For many school districts, classroom technology integration has become a priority. So bringing in digital books to provide easily accessible content to students is an important step. “It makes it easier because you don’t have the concerns/drawbacks of print resources,” said Kate MacMillan, coordinator of library services for Napa Valley Unified School District. “Digital titles will never be lost and staff doesn’t have to spend time managing print resources.”

In addition to the convenience and peace of mind, here are just a few ways digital content is being used with students:

School library or media center usage: During weekly visits to the library students can borrow titles on school computers to enjoy graphic novels, comics or short stories and read them in their browser. School librarians can help provide readers’ advisory and recommendations aligned with teacher’s content and curriculum.

Test Prep: Students want to study when it’s convenient for them. Test prep materials in digital format provide that convenience and can be accessed anywhere. Unlike physical test prep materials, digital content doesn’t have other student’s notes written on the pages, instead students can highlight text on their own device and take notes and it’s only seen by them.

Language Learning: Students studying a new language can borrow digital content in that language to better understand format and structure. They can also listen to foreign language audiobooks for context clues and flow.

Supplemental reading in subjects including Math, History and Social Studies: Teachers can assign supplemental reading materials to align with any subject and topic being taught. Supplemental reading provides deeper insight into historical events, people or ideas being presented by the teacher and students can access the content on their own time.

THE OVERDRIVE DIFFERENCE

As a 100% digital company with over 12,000 school partners, OverDrive focuses on combining the technology you need with the content you want to support learning and reading in the classroom, library and home. Contact us today to learn how we can help meet students’ and educators’ content needs anytime, anywhere.

Make OverDrive your school’s digital reading platform