

# Mythbusting digital reading

*Dispelling 4 common misconceptions.*



# Sora

Where students read

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# The evolution of reading technology

**5,000 years ago**

Human beings began reading and writing.

**550 years ago**

The printing press was developed.

**50 years ago**

Digital books come onto the scene with Project Gutenberg.

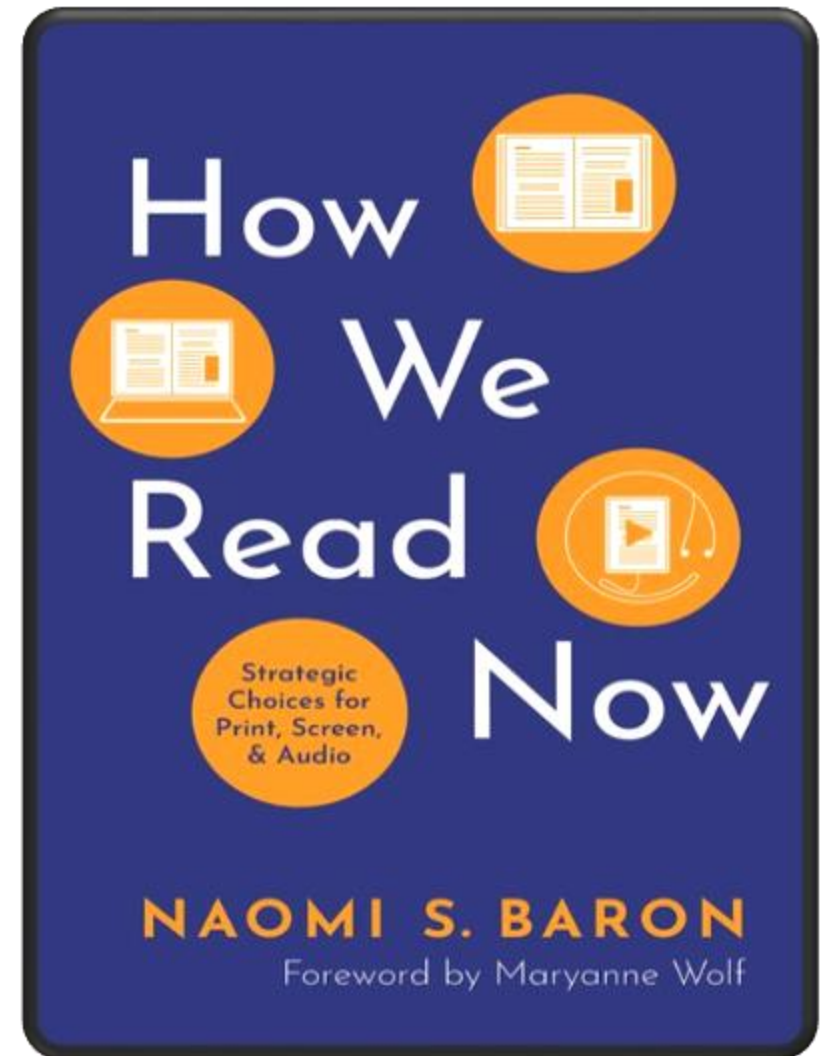
# Let's do a quick show of hands.

*Approximately how much of the daily reading required for your career is done on a **screen?***

- 0 - 20% (None or very little)
- 21 - 50% (Some)
- 51 - 75% (More than half)
- 76 - 100% (Nearly all or all)



***“...we may want to stop thinking of the electronic book for young children as a digital substitute for print and instead as a distinct form unto itself.”***



**What are some common misconceptions about digital reading?**



**Myth:** Students already have **too much screen time**. We don't need to expose them to more in school.



**FACT:** There is a difference between passive and active screen time. Guided screen time benefits students. Most students participate in “shallow” reading (like scrolling through Facebook or Twitter) online.

**Deep digital reading in a classroom context enforces good reading habits, making students better at reading and comprehending digital texts.** If this practice is not taught purposefully, it's unlikely to be learned.



**Myth:** Print reading provides better **comprehension** than reading digitally.



**FACT:** There is **no notable difference** in comprehension between reading in print and reading digitally.

Reading comprehension is higher in digital texts that use **paging** rather than scrolling. **Reading ebooks is not the same as scrolling online.**





**Myth:** Students prefer reading print books.



**FACT:** Studies with middle and high school students show that **digital reading is preferred, especially for boys and reluctant readers.**

Consider that **each student has unique preferences and needs.**



**Myth:** Audiobooks don't count as “real” reading.



**FACT:** A meta-analysis shows no discernable difference in comprehension between those who read a book and those who listened to the audiobook.

Additionally, audiobooks provide **support for students with accessibility needs.**

Clinton-Lisell, V. (2022). Listening Ears or Reading Eyes: A Meta-Analysis of Reading and Listening Comprehension Comparisons. *Review of Educational Research*, 92(4), 543–582. <https://doi.org/10.3102/00346543211060871>

**Ultimately, digital books  
help prepare students for  
life beyond the classroom.**

# Students are faced with...

- More digital reading than ever in **post-secondary education and careers.**
- **Increasingly computerized testing**
  - Exams requiring students to **read on a screen** include CAASPPs, ELPACs, SATs & ACTs
  - In May 2025, **28 AP exams** will transition to full or hybrid digital formats.

**Now is the time** for students to build deep, sustained reading skills...**but how?**





## What if you had a solution that could...

- ✓ ...prepare students for digital testing?
- ✓ ...offer 24/7 access to books?
- ✓ ...provide equitable access to digital books across a whole school or district? (Or even an entire state!)

# Sora

## *Where students read*

Sora is an award-winning digital reading platform that ensures every one of your students has access to the right digital books to achieve their reading and learning goals.

[soraapp.com](https://soraapp.com)

OR DOWNLOAD THE APP:



2021 & 2019 AASL  
Best Digital Tools



District  
Administration  
Top Ed Tech  
Product 2020



2019 AASL  
Crystal Apple  
Recipient



2019 Academics'  
Choice Smart  
Media Award

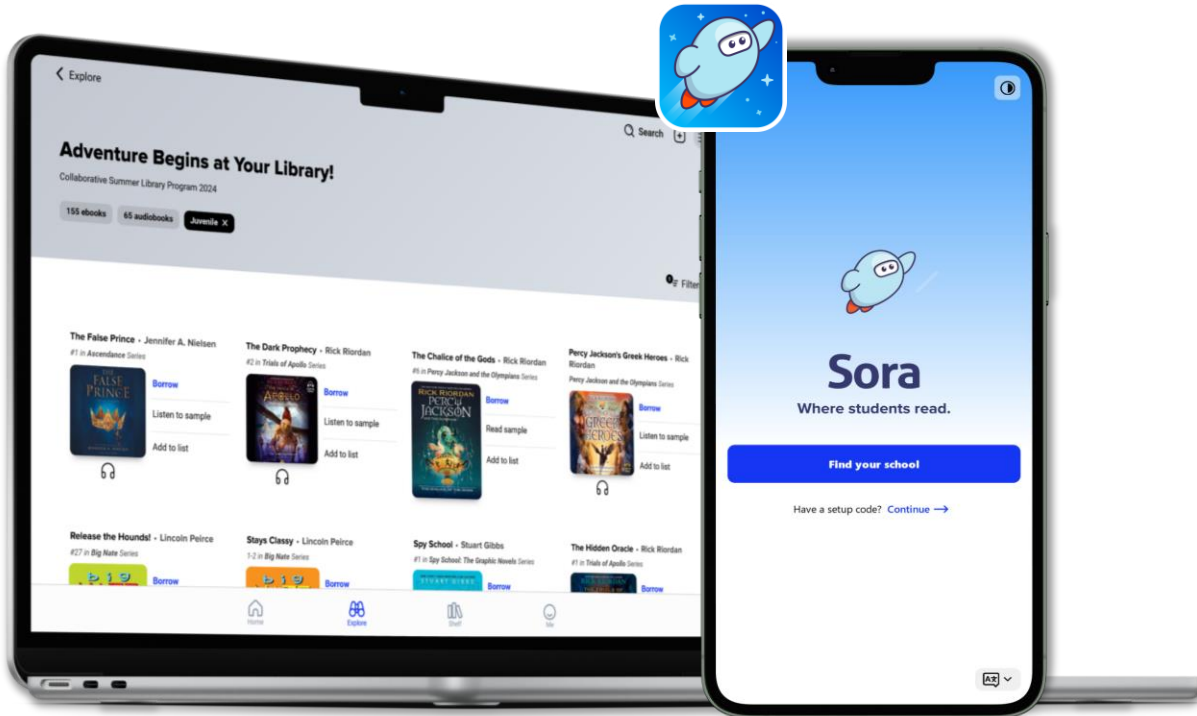


2021 Gold Stevie  
Award

**TIME**

Time Magazine's  
Best Inventions  
of 2019

# How does Sora make a difference?



24/7 access to digital reading



Offline access for downloaded titles



Multilingual interface (13 languages!)



Customizable reading & listening settings



Screen reader support



Public library access



Monitor reading progress and usage data.

***And more!***

# Your TLDR takeaway for today:



## **Lean into digital reading**

as an important part of preparing students for the world of today – and the future.

**Stick around and chat with our team to learn how Sora can help!**

**Plus, don't forget to get your badge scanned – you'll get a copy of today's presentation and be entered into a raffle for a Sora care package!**



# Sora

Where students read

## Thank you!

Get in touch: [schools@overdrive.com](mailto:schools@overdrive.com)

Learn more: [discoversora.com](https://discoversora.com)

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