

FORGET THE MYTHS!



HERE'S WHY AUDIOBOOKS WORK!

Not sure about using audiobooks in the classroom? You may be operating with outdated information. We're ready to set the record straight. Kids who read with audiobooks have better comprehension than those who don't. We bust this and other myths about audiobooks below!

MYTH:

IT'S "CHEATING" TO LISTEN TO BOOKS INSTEAD OF READING THEM.

BUSTED:

Reading is the taking in of information. Whether you do it with your eyes or your ears, you're still collecting information, and you're still reading. Even esteemed author and writing expert William Zinsser says, "People read with their ears, whether they know it or not."

MYTH:

IF MY STUDENTS USE AUDIOBOOKS, THEY WON'T BE PREPARED TO READ IN REAL-LIFE SITUATIONS.

BUSTED:

Using audiobooks throughout the year will help build your students' access to content and vocabulary, and they will gain confidence along the way. The skills they build through listening to audiobooks will help them progress with reading written text in every situation they might encounter.

MYTH:

STUDENTS WILL NEVER ACTUALLY LEARN TO READ WELL IF THEY LISTEN TO THEIR BOOKS.

BUSTED:

Research has shown that hearing the text as it is read can actually boost comprehension. It also increases fluency, vocabulary and decoding skills. Kids actually become better readers with audiobooks than without them.

MYTH:

IF MY STUDENTS ARE LISTENING TO AN AUDIOBOOK THEY CAN'T HIGHLIGHT AND TAKE NOTES.

BUSTED:

If students are following along with a traditional book, they can still highlight the text and take notes in the margins. If they're reading with a tablet they can highlight and take notes in the digital copy.

MYTH:

PEOPLE WHO READ BEST BY LISTENING AREN'T AS SMART.

BUSTED:

Let's take a look at some of the names on the "read best by listening" list: Albert Einstein, Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Steven Spielberg, Beethoven and Steve Jobs.

That's just the short list. These are some amazing thinkers and innovators!

MYTH:

ONE STUDENT LISTENING TO AN AUDIOBOOK WILL DISTRACT THE REST OF MY CLASS.

BUSTED:

Why does it have to be just one student? Research shows that everyone has better comprehension when they listen to audiobooks as they read. Consider allowing a few of your students (or maybe even the whole class!) to listen to audiobooks in the classroom. If you make audiobooks a normal part of learning, then students who use them won't be a distraction. They'll blend in, rather than stick out.

P.S. Classroom management and rules around the technology will be your best friend.

Learn more about audiobooks at LearningAlly.org