

Childrens reading habits - an interview study

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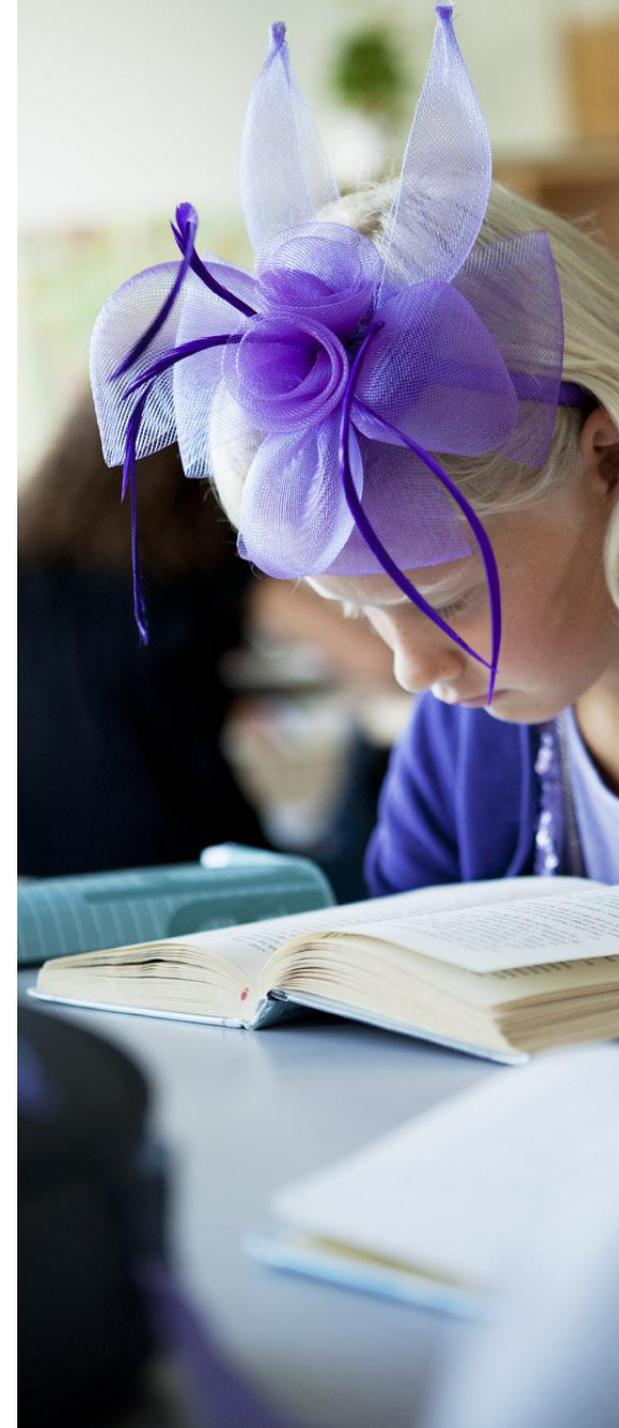


The structure of the presentation

- Short presentation of the present study and of previous studies of childrens reading habits
- Highlighting of 3 findings of the study
 - How do children perceive the reading of books?
 - From whom do children get inspiration to read books?
 - How do children perceive the public library?
- Questions (participants)

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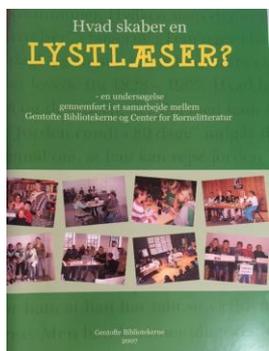
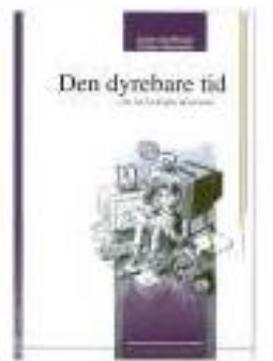
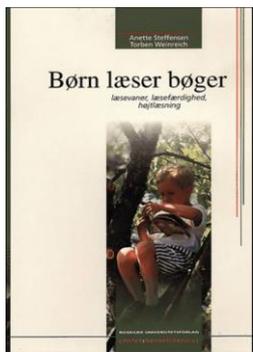
”Childrens reading habits – Overview and insight”

- Quantitative study:
8721 students answered an electronic questionnaire.
Children aged 10-14 years, from 110 schools in Denmark
- Qualitative study:
8 single interviews and 4 focusgroup interviews with 28 students
Children aged 11-12 years, from 4 schools in Denmark

The Danish Think Tank – Libraries of the Future
The National Centre for Learning Materials
The National Centre for Reading

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Børns læsevaner 2017:
Overblik og indblik



The participating children

Aged 11-12 years

A decrease in time spent on reading

An increase in time spent on digital medias



A width concerning: gender, ethnicity and joy of reading

Open and talkative: Children who were interested in telling us about their reading habits.

How do children perceive the reading of books?

Reading fiction is both a boring and a wonderful activity

I was totally sad, such a strange and sad feeling when the story ended. I just thought, "It must not end now!"

Quite a lot of the stories that we read at school, I think are not very exciting. They just aren't really 12-year-olds.

It's boring! When you sit and read, when you instead could be with your friends.

It is nice to sit under the duvet in the evening before you go to sleep, and just sit and read.



How do children perceive the reading of books?

Reading fiction requires time and patience

At first they tend to be boring, but in the end they start to be fun. This is how I always feel about books.

I: "*That they are boring at first?*" Yes, and then they drag me along longer.

I: "*How can that be?*"

I think it has a lot to do with swimming, because sometimes when you swim, you think, "Arh, this is boring" but when you get more into the program, you think "it's actually fun, this."

How do children perceive the reading of books?

The printed book is the best media for reading fiction, it is not the digital medias.

It is much nicer to sit with the book instead of having to look at the screen.

You can (very) easily irritate the screen so it moves away from the text. And then you might just sit for a minute and get the text back to normal

On a tablet you easily focus on other things. For example, if you get a notification from your favorite YouTuber”



From whom do the children get inspiration to read?

Mom, teachers, librarians

But, according to the children, mainly friends

I usually take the
advices and the
inspiration that comes
from my friends

I found them because my teacher had
found them for me because she
thought they looked exciting. Then I
started reading them, and then I told
my friends, and then it spread.

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From whom do the children get inspiration to read?

Inspiration from the book itself: the cover, the title, the pictures

I'm just looking at the front of the cover

Then you can quickly look through the pages and see if it is interesting

When I have to find a book, I also look a lot at the back and see if it's something for me

You can also see that it is a fantasy-like book if there is a monster behind the person

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When do the children read?

When they feel they have enough time to read:

On holidays, weekends, before going to sleep

I can feel a little stressed. If I have to both do homework and read a little and do all the other things.

I read in the evening, just before I'm going to bed, just to get the brain completely relaxed.

I read when I'm not allowed to game anymore. Because I'm only allowed to game two hours a day.



How do children perceive the public library?

All know the library and where to find the nearest one, but they do not visit it.

It is mainly perceived as a room filled with books – a boring "book-place"

A few children, who read often, do visit the library

I don't think people go to the library alone. Because it's a pretty boring place, right?

I love going to the library! Because there are so many books and such a nice and quiet atmosphere.

I'm fine with the books I already have. I don't need any more than them.



How do children perceive the public library??

Good memories of the library

But the room does not appeal to them at present

I went there when I was a small child, there was a playground

it was exciting ... It was something completely different from what I was used to. There were so many books, and a room with grown-up books and a room with children's books, and I actually think I liked that.

I am not that interested in books anymore



How do children perceive the public library?

Library visits must depend on the initiative of the adults
Library visits must be made together with friends

You could ask your parents to say, "Let's visit the library every two weeks to borrow one book, and then you have to finish it for the next time we get there."

I: *Just before, you said that it was boring at the library because there were just books all over?*

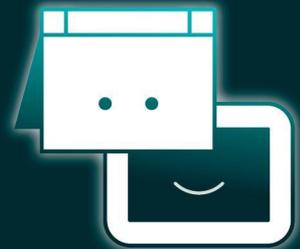
B: Well, it was something different with my class. With my class we could go around in groups and look for books.

I: *Did you find that nice?*

B: Yes

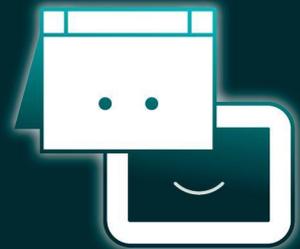
Summary

- Reading books is both a boring and a wonderful activity
 - and it requires a lot of time and patience
- They prefer the printed book as reading media
 - digital medias do not have the same qualities as the book
- Friends, mom, teachers, librarians and the book itself inspire them to read
 - mainly friends, according to the children



Summary

- They read when time allows it
 - mainly before going to sleep
- They rarely visit the library
 - it is looked upon as a boring "book-place"
- Their memories of the library are good
 - They do not go there at present, library visits must depend on the initiative of the adults



Questions?

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