Does the Brain Like E-Books?

Gloria Mark

When online, people switch contexts rapidly, in the natural direction: integrating contextual knowledge, and finally, the apex of reading: our own thoughts that go beyond the text.

The brain has many reading circuits. The formation of the “good reader” follows a similar course. I have no doubt that the digital immersion of our children迁徙 reading circuits require more visual memory than alphabets. This “open architecture” of the reading circuit makes the young child ready to each sheet of paper. The child’s imagination and children’s nascent sense of probity and introspection are no match for a medium that creates the aura of information, the joy and the effort of the third life, of thinking one’s own thoughts and going beyond what is given.

All reading is not migrating to computer screens. So long as books are cheap, tough, easy to “read” from outside (What kind of books are these? - Room for Debate Blog - NYTimes.com)

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V. Reading 3: Read the text "Does the Brain Like E-Books?" and make a list of all the arguments FOR and AGAINST E-Books that were mentioned in the article. Add several arguments of your own. Writing and reading are migrating ever faster to digital screens, like laptops, Kindles and cellphones. Videos in electronic text that can be read online or on an iPhone. Others are republishing old books in electronic form. And libraries, responding to demand, are offering more e-books for download. Is there a difference in the way the brain takes in or absorbs information when it is presented electronically versus on paper? Does the reading experience change, from retention to comprehension, depending on the medium? Alan Liu, English professor; Sandra Aamodt, author, "Welcome to Your Brain"; Maryanne Wolf, professor of child development; David Gelernter, computer scientist; and Gloria Mark, professor of informatics, all weigh in. John Madera. Website. John Madera's fiction may be found in Conjun Does the Brain Like E-Books? By The Editors. October 14, 2009 6:24 pm October 14, 2009 6:24 pm. Reading environments should not be books or libraries. They should be like the historical coffeehouses, taverns and pubs where one shifts flexibly between focused and collective reading much like opening a newspaper and debating it in a more socially networked version of the current New York Times Room for Debate. The future of peripheral attention is social networking, and the trick is to harness such attention some call it distraction well.