



Traditional Books vs E Books

Advantages of E-Books

- Children can learn literacy from features that e-books have (eg. a dictionary and words that are highlighted as they are being read out loud)
- Children may be more interested in e-books compared to traditional books
- Children can access and use e-books independently
- E-Books are convenient and always accessible with today's technology



How to Choose a Good E-Book

- Choose an e-book with limited distractions (eg. background music, zooming in and out on the illustrations and animations.)
- Disable interactive features on the story to allow your child to listen to the story first. Games can be played after the book is completely read through.
- Use e-books that highlight or point to words as they are being read out loud. This will help your child recognize letters, sounds and words
- Other good features to have in an e-book can be, page flipping buttons (when the child decides when they want to flip the page) and dictionary (where the child can learn about the meaning of the words)

Disadvantages of E-Books

- Parents are more likely to take time to talk about the story with a traditional book.
- Studies show that children and adults learn less from e-books. Most people recall important details of a story when asked after reading a traditional book.
- Some e-books may be over stimulating and distracting (eg. background music, games, fast pace)
- E-books often lead to less opportunity for communication and turn taking during the story (eg. flipping pages, asking/answering questions, pointing to parts of the book)



It Takes Two

- It is important to remember that E-books should not replace traditional books. Use both.
- Take the time to talk about the story with your child. Make comments about what you see on the pictures and ask WH questions about the plot.
- Review the story when it is over. Talk about what happened in the beginning, middle and end and how they story related to something that has happened in their life.