Simplify Reading for All Students

School librarians talk evidence-based practices, supports, and strategies.

SLJ WEBCASTS

THORNDIKE PRESS from Gale
SPEAKERS

Donna Gray
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Moderated by:
Sabine McAlpine
National Sales Director, Thorndike Press
THORNDIKE PRESS  
YOUTH LARGE PRINT:

- Produced with same cover art
- "Large Print" not on outside
- Similar in size/weight
- 100% guarantee on binding

FONT COMPARISON

16-POINT FONT
1/3 MORE LINE SPACING
EXPANDED SPACE BETWEEN PARAGRAPHS
HIGH-CONTRAST BLACK INK
LOW GLARE PAPER
HOW DOES LARGE PRINT STRENGTHEN READING SKILLS?

In a nationwide study by Project Tomorrow, more than half of students reported they “stayed focused and didn’t get distracted” while reading large print.

- Of Elementary Readers said large print helped them focus: 69%
- Of Middle School Readers said large print helped them focus: 57%
- Of High School Readers said large print helped them focus: 62%
TEACHERS IN A NATIONWIDE STUDY OBSERVED THE FOLLOWING STUDENT OUTCOMES:

**Below-Grade-Level Readers**
- 76% had better retention
- 74% felt greater confidence in their reading abilities

**ESL/ELL Students**
- 42% improved decoding
- 62% reported faster acquisition of the English language

**Special Education Students**
- 68% increased participation in class read-aloud activities
- 57% had better letter and word recognition

**At-Grade-Level Readers**
- 73% enhanced reading fluency
- 73% spent more time reading
STUDENT EXPERIENCES CHANGE BY READING LARGE PRINT

43% of 3-12 graders reported a reduction in feelings of anxiety about reading.

NEARLY 60% of 6-8 graders said they could focus better and didn’t lose their place due to distractions when reading large print.

54% of 3-12 graders said that school reading experiences would be more enjoyable if all books were large print.
EDUCATORS SEE THE DIFFERENCE OF THIS FORMAT

3/4 of teachers said students reading below grade level demonstrated better comprehension and retention with large print books.

4/5 teachers said large print benefits students who have issues tracking or lack self-confidence in reading.

95% of teachers said they’re likely to use large print text in the upcoming school year.
69% of striving readers said they enjoyed reading large print format more than any other class books during the school year.

2–3x

One middle school increased Lexile reading levels 2–3 times the average recommended growth.
5 Tips to Launch Your Collection from Tasha Squires, School Librarian, O’Neill Middle School, Downers Grove, IL

ABANDON PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS.
Struggling readers and those with visual impairments love large print texts, but many regular education students enjoy them too.

GIVE STUDENTS FREEDOM TO CHOOSE.
Different students are comfortable with different format options. Large print improves overall accessibility!

DISPLAY TITLES SEPARATELY.
Assign a separate place in the library for the large print collection. In online catalogs, you may want to flag large print holdings with a call number using the letters “LP.”

STAY UP TO DATE.
Be aware that new titles are coming out all the time. Your perception of what is available may be outdated.

PROMOTE, PROMOTE, PROMOTE.
Getting the word out about large print titles is a must! Use “book talks” and book talk podcasts to inform listeners when books become available in large print.

from Tasha Squires, School Librarian, O’Neill Middle School, Downers Grove, IL
THANK YOU!

For titles, research, and more, visit gale.com/thorndike/ylp