Reading, Risk, and Reality: College Students and Reading for Pleasure
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Abstract
News reports and well-publicized government studies have led to a popular perception that reading is an endangered activity, particularly among youth. In this study we surveyed college students, librarians, and college writing instructors about students’ attitudes toward reading for pleasure, examine barriers to voluntary reading among college students, and explore academic libraries’ potential role in promoting reading. Our findings suggest that students have a far higher interest in reading than is typically believed and recommend steps academic librarians can take to encourage reading for lifelong learning.

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4. Teach students reading strategies. Many students don’t like to read because it’s hard for them. Teach children reading strategies (i.e. repeated reading) to help them feel confident and read fluently. 5. Set up a book club. Book clubs and reading groups are a great way for students to socialize and share their thoughts. This interaction makes reading so much more enjoyable, and it enhances their comprehension skills. 6. Let students choose their own books. Studies have shown that when students choose their own books it will boost their reading ability. Helpful Links: Reading for Pleasure, Boosting Ability. Teachers, how do you encourage a love of reading in your students? Share with us in the comment section below. We would love to hear your thoughts.